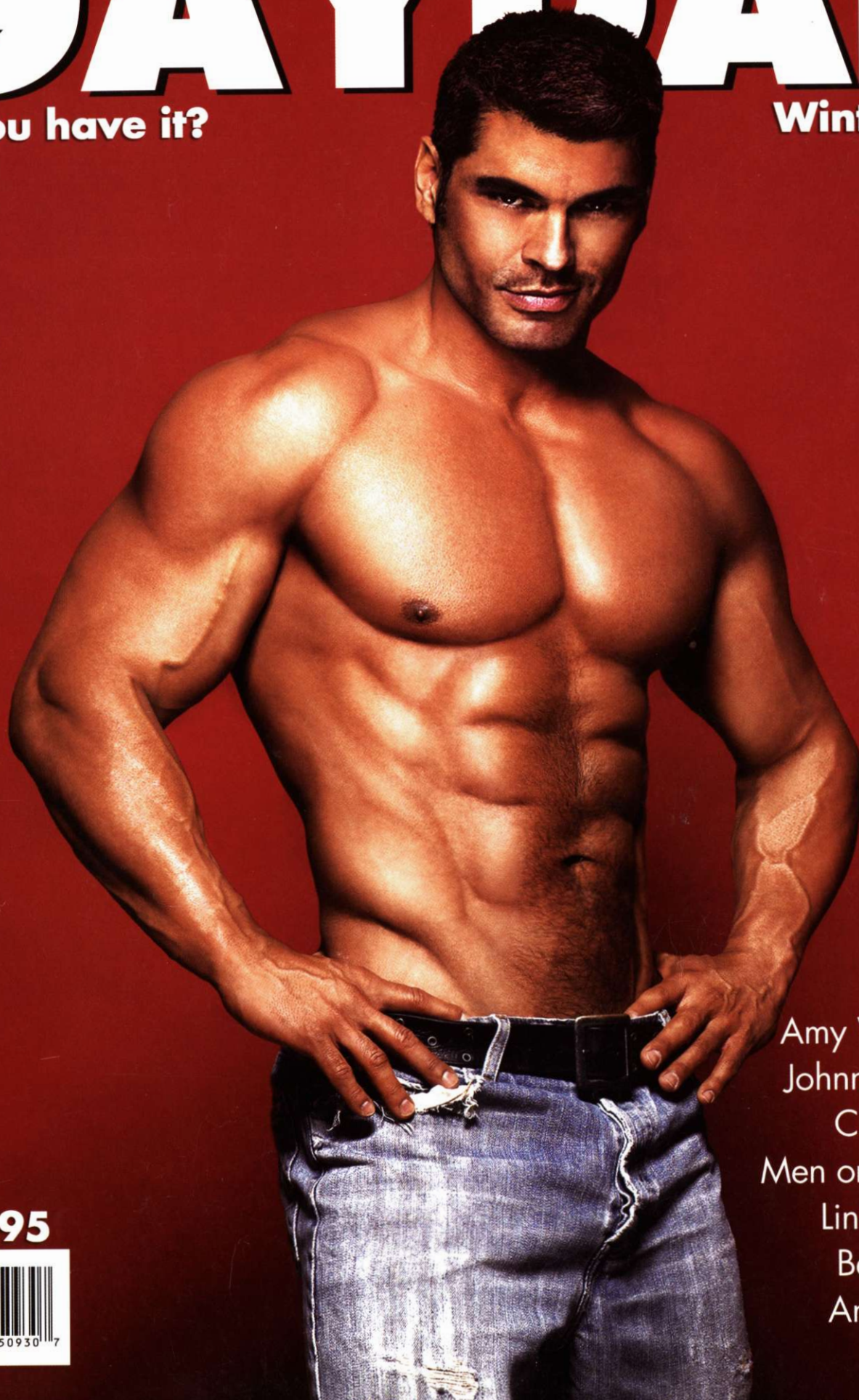


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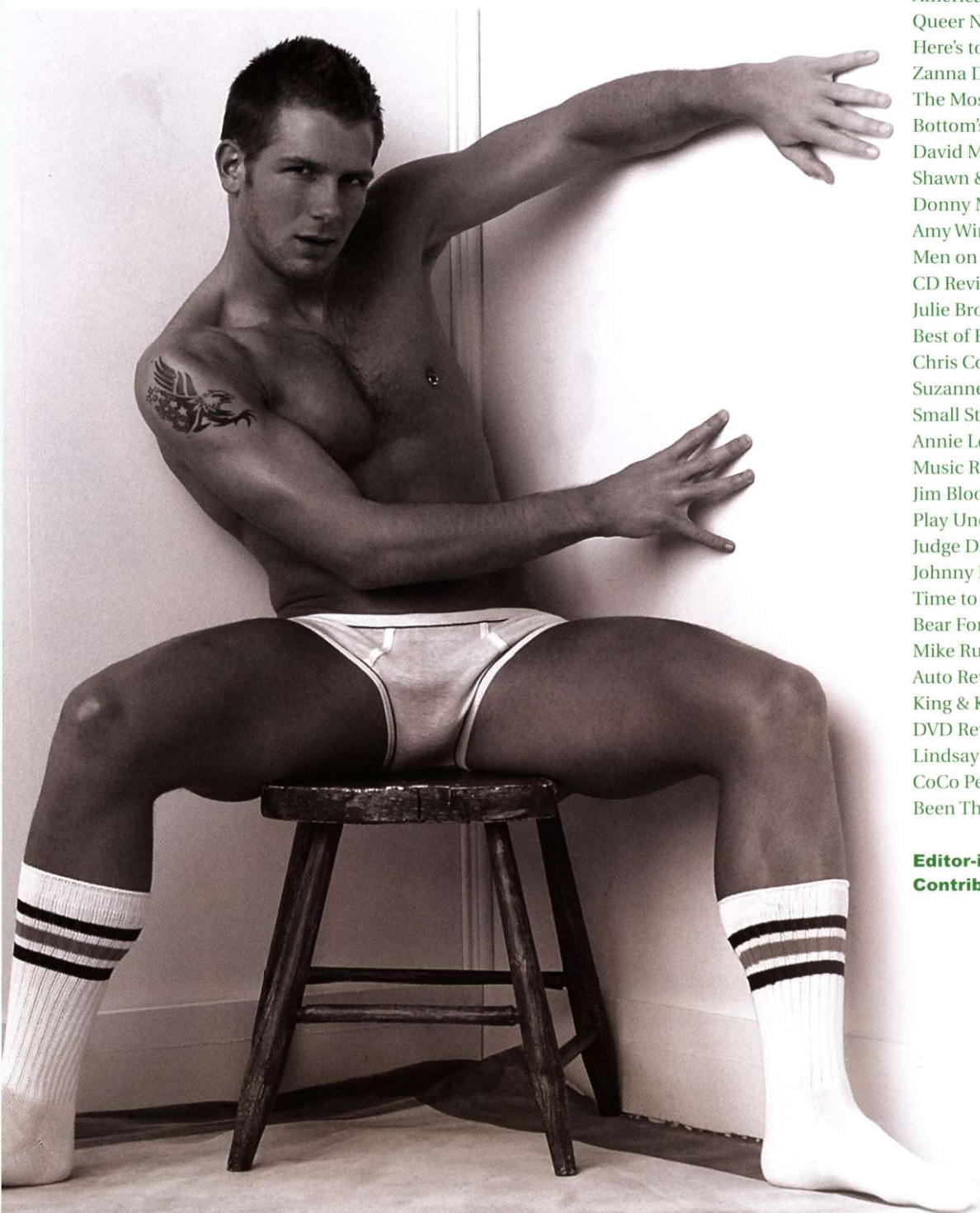
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Editor's Note

Welcome to issue number 11! It feels like number 10! We have some great stuff inside these pages. Amy Winehouse great! Annie Lennox great! Bear Force 1 great! Lindsay Lozon and Linda deHaan great!! Mike Ruiz and Donny Miller great!!! As well as our Cocktail, CD, DVD, Auto Reviews and the Best and Worst of 2007 by guest columnist CoCo Peru. Best of films for 2007, TV's gay Judge David Young, hot guys and so much more!!

It has been a great three years and as we look toward the future we are faced with some challenges. Aside from electing a president with an IQ greater than my cat's. Long story short, I quit my social work career to start Gaydar Magazine and give a voice to the gay community in the Lehigh Valley. However, it's time I return to that profession for many reasons including health and retirement benefits. For three years I have done the marketing, advertising, interviews, delivery, mailing, parties, fundraisers etc. If Gaydar Magazine is to continue we will need some investors so that we can afford to pay a few people to take over some of these responsibilities. Investors would also make it possible to print tens of thousands of copies of Gaydar and have a much wider distribution. Borders Books would like to carry Gaydar in more of their stores but with printing costs, the Borders fee and their distribution house taking a cut it would cost close to \$10 to produce each issue. We only charge \$5.95 an issue. You do the math. Printing more copies decreases our cost per issue. Because I wanted to increase the quality from our infancy, we have passed on previous offers to buy the magazine. However I would now entertain offers if someone was serious about purchasing the name, the publication and the website.

All of that said, I want to thank our gifted contributors who for three years have donated their talents to ensure that Gaydar survive. Without you we'd be looking at blank pages. Thank you to our brave advertisers, some of which had never advertised in a gay publication before. Without you we'd be looking at nothing. Thank you to our subscribers, website visitors and all those who have come out to support our fundraising efforts for PDN, Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley, AIDS Outreach, F.A.C.T., PA-GALA, Haven and The LV Gay Men's Chorus. We love putting the fun in fundraiser! Thank you to Lehigh Valley Magazine, Lehigh Valley Style, The Morning Call and Merge for giving us positive ink since day one. Even though I do have final say in the layout, Dan Mare and Dave Coates have been responsible for the graphic design, and they have done an amazing job. And, lastly the person who has to put up with my fiery/moody personality (I'm an Aries) throughout it all is my boyfriend Gary (he's a Cancer. All the literature warns we're not a good match. Pray for us!)

If you're a regular reader I appreciate your support. If you are a new reader, welcome! We have back issues for sale! Either way, if you've read this far I commend your patience and would love to hear from you at gaydarmagazine@hotmail.com

All my best in the New Year!

Stephen T. Libby
Editor/Owner

An Open Letter to Jodie Foster

Dear Jodie,

I love you more now than ever before. I know it shouldn't matter that you came out but it does. I have been guilty of making snarky comments about you hiding in the closet and I'm sorry. I know that people have to come out in their own time. But 40 years? Sheesh! Oops, there I go again. Old habits... I wish you, Cydney and your family all the best in this new year and many more to come.

Love,
Steve

P.S. If you're ever feeling alone just read over this short list of other famous Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Trans People: Truman Capote. Rufus Wainwright. Sir Ian McKellan. Elton John. Melissa Etheridge. Sappho. Oscar Wilde. k.d. lang. George Michael. Richard Chamberlain. Farley Granger. Charles Nelson Reilly. Paul Lynde. Divine. Paul Reubens. John Waters. Ellen DeGeneres. Rosie O'Donnell. Alan Turning. David Hyde Pierce. Peter Allen. Angelina Jolie. Tracy Chapman. Roberta Achtenberg. Alexander the Great. Hans Christian Andersen. Susan B. Anthony. Giorgio Armani. Joan Armatrading. Howard Ashman. Horatio Alger Jr. Pedro Zamora. Franco Zeffirelli. Joan Baez. Josephine Baker. James Baldwin. Alan Ball. Clive Barker. Jean-Michel Basquait. Billy Bean..

Landmark Gay Films for a Snowy Day:

1. Boys in the Band
2. Making Love
3. Torch Song Trilogy
4. Latter Days
5. Brokeback Mountain
6. The Wedding Banquet
7. Parting Glances
8. Longtime Companion
9. Philadelphia
10. Querelle
11. La Cage Aux Folles
12. In & Out
13. The Adventures of Pricilla, Queen of the Desert
14. Love! Valour! Compassion!
15. Cruising
16. Beautiful Thing
17. To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar
18. The Broken Heart's Club
19. Deathtrap
20. Maurice
21. The Birdcage
22. Jeffrey
23. Edge of Seventeen
24. Sum of Us
25. Bent
26. Trick
27. The Naked Civil Servant



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American Hairlines Gym

Interview with Dave McCormick by Stephen Libby

Gaydar Magazine: Describe the gym at American Hairlines.

Dave McCormick: Our training center and spa locker rooms were designed by Dru and me. We have traveled to gay resorts for many years and have taken what we think are the best amenities from all of them. We like to think of it as an elegant gym with sophisticated equipment and the highest quality trainers in the industry. Everyone is welcome at our gym. People that are in shape, people that aren't in shape and people that just want to use the spa amenities and not work out at all, are all welcome. Simply, we are a nonjudgmental place and we welcome everyone.

GM: Why should gay people join AH Gym?

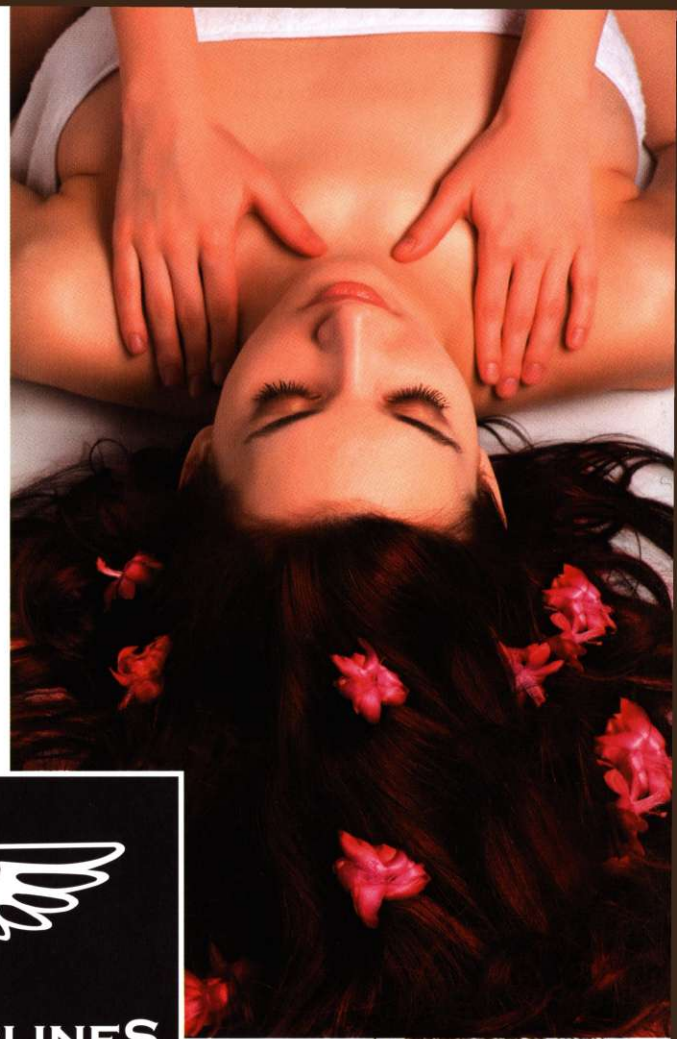
DM: Where else would you go? I think gay people love our gym because it's beautiful and has steam rooms, whirlpool tubs and saunas. You'll be lifting and running under crystal chandeliers, there are 70 private TV channels on all card equipment, massages, facials and dimmers in the locker rooms, not to mention the hot trainers. I could go on but that's why everyone loves the gym.

GM: What are the benefits to joining AH Gym?

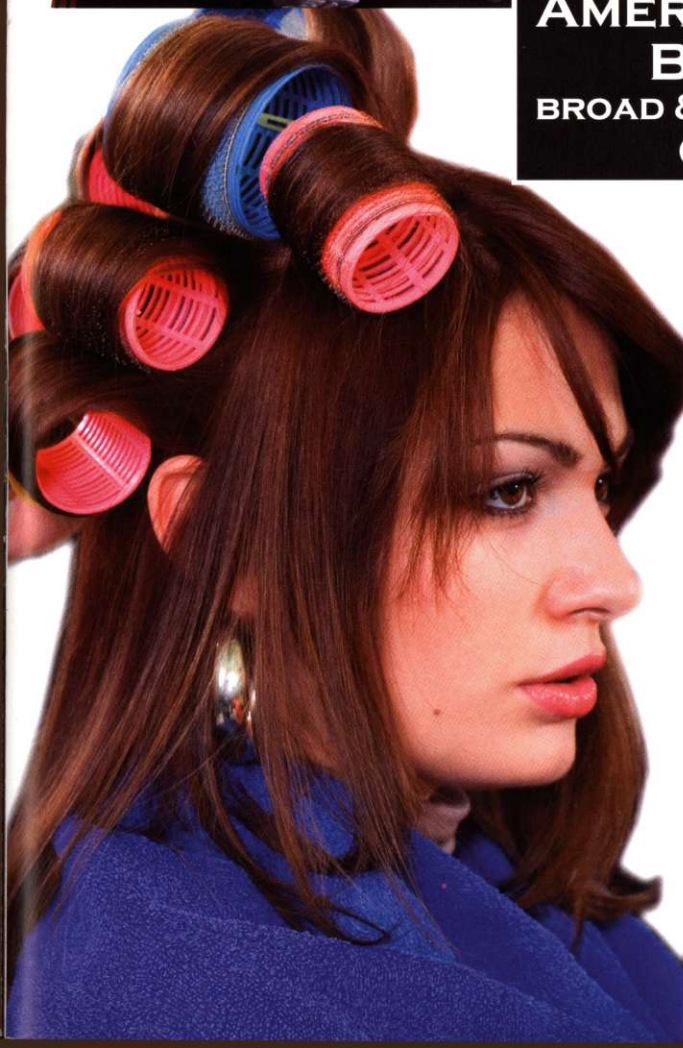
DM: Everyone works out with like-minded people. There are so many gyms to choose from, but if you like being with people like yourself that's one hell of a benefit.

GM: What kind of a deal are you offering our readers?

DM: If you mention this article, we'll give you a great deal; it's the Velvet Mafia discount. We're not expensive to begin with, come in and we'll give you passes so you can try it before you sign. You'll sign though, I guarantee it!



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"My Beautiful Cydney who sticks with me through all the rotten and the bliss." - Jodie Foster thanking her partner Cydney Bernard upon accepting the Sherry Lansing Leadership Award in December.

"Suggesting that the victims of discrimination should be responsible for changing the minds of bigots in order to 'earn' equal rights is immoral and Un-American." - Liz Bradbury PDN Executive Director on the cowardly statement in the Washington Post (quoted below) and the weak position taken by the national organization Human Rights Campaign on the removal of Gender Identity protections from the language of the ENDA Legislation.

"Delaying passage of ENDA, which was first introduced in the House in the mid-1970s by Rep. Bella Abzug, until the transgender community changes enough hearts and minds would be a mistake." - From the Washington Post.

"Our law here in Mexico City could cause a chain reaction," - Alejandro Brito of the activist group Letra S on the Mexico City passage of legal same-sex unions.

"I'm trying to tell kids if they are gay, it's OK to be gay. I've tried to tell families if they have a gay family member to accept them and love them as they always have," Dear Abby (Pauline Phillips) said upon receiving a top award from national PFLAG.

"...However, let's drop all pretenses and admit that when we talk of an 'incremental' approach it is code for at least a fifteen-year increment of time." -- Wayne Besen, from Anything But Straight, on any justification for removing gender identity protections from ENDA.

"What community is expected to protect its own enemies? Don't beat up the gay community, and then expect us to protect your secrets and your double life. It's just not right." -- Blogger Mike Rogers who broke the Sen. Larry Craig restroom sting story - explaining that he will no longer call what he does "outing" but rather "reporting."

"These events were devastating, but I wanted to take a stand for my children and my community, and I am grateful for the jury's courage and understanding." -- Washington State lesbian Melissa Sheffield, in a statement, upon winning a \$4.4 million award in a court case against her former employer Goodyear Tire and Rubber C. that alleged unlawful retaliation that eventually led to her dismissal (from Planetout).

"But the question has come up: If we can't include gender identity in this bill, should we do anything at all? Should we take half a loaf. My colleagues, I think the answer is no. I think we cannot toss this element of an important civil rights coalition to the side... Maybe what we should say is we are in this together." -- Congressman Anthony Weiner (D-NY) in a statement from the House Floor.

"We emphasize that no matter how salutary the purpose of a bill may be, it still must comport with constitutionally mandated requirements for passage," -- Judge James Gardner Colins wrote in the majority opinion, as quoted in keystonepolitics.com from a notice that the PA Hate Crimes Law inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity that was passed in 2002 has been overturned by the State Court based on a procedural technicality.

"They're always talking about other people's Judgment Day. Well, this is theirs." Albert Snyder, father of Marine Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder, who was killed in Iraq, who sued the Fred ("God Hates Fags") Phelps Family Westboro Baptist Church for protesting at the funeral of his son, claiming the protests intruded upon what should have been a private ceremony and sullied his memory of the event. The Kansas church was ordered to pay nearly \$11 million in damages to a grieving father

"One of the possibilities is that the increase in the number of infections was related to the vaccine." -- Dr. Keith Gottesdiener, vice president of clinical research at Merck Research Laboratories as quoted in an AP article on the testing failure of a new AIDS vaccine that showed volunteers who got the shots were far more likely to get infected with the virus through sex or other risky behavior than those who got dummy shots.

Newsday.com reports, "Two liberal New Jersey groups are debuting pro-gay-marriage television commercials on News 12 New Jersey. The ads are the most public part yet of a campaign to persuade the state's lawmakers to allow gay couples to marry."

"The bill would give them many of the same benefits currently granted only to married couples, including rights of inheritance or to take the other's name." -- Hungarian Government spokesman David Daroczi quoted in an AP article about a new law in Hungary that would grant legal rights to same-sex couples.

Liz Bradbury is a full time volunteer advocate for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community. She is the Executive Director of PA Diversity Network, the publisher of the Valley Gay Press newspaper, the creator of the PDN Photo Project, and runs PDN's resource web site at www.padiversity.org. She has written over 200 published nonfiction articles and essays on GLBT issues and also writes lesbian mystery romance novels.

Want Some?

Issues of **Addiction**

By Keith C. Lantz, MS

in our Community

Why GLBT people are at risk

Research has shown that the impact of heterosexism, homophobia, prejudice, and discrimination experienced by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) community, as well as, those questioning their sexuality, is reflected in a higher than average incidence of smoking, drug addiction, and alcoholism. Sometimes these disruptions in personal growth make it extremely difficult to sustain healthy relationships and preserve one's self esteem.

Shame and similar feelings can be as a major component in the progression of a GLBT person's addiction process. In an effort to deal with these feelings, many GLBT people turn to drugs and alcohol; while, others choose sex, gambling, eating, or spending. Other issues common to the GLBT community that might lead to addiction problems might include:

- Accepting one's own identity
- Lack of acceptance by family and friends
- Coming out
- Depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues
- Establishing social networks

Studies have shown that addiction is a real problem in the GLBT community. Tobacco use, alcohol misuse, and drug use and related health problems are critical public health problems. Results of several, but not all, studies suggest that lesbians and gay men are at higher risk for smoking tobacco, alcohol misuse, and drug abuse. Below are some data showing how some addictions are disproportionately affecting the GLBT community.

Smoking

A study published in 2006, based on data from a large health insurance plan showed that gay and lesbians were more likely to be smokers. Data was analyzed from a random sample of health surveys of adults to assess whether lesbians (210 surveyed) and gay men (331 surveyed) were more likely than similar heterosexual women (12,188) and men

(9,342) to be smokers. Results showed that lesbians and gay men were significantly more likely than heterosexual women and men to be current smokers. Thus, lesbians and gay men may be at increased risk for health problems due to higher levels of cigarette use.

Methamphetamine

Studies have found that methamphetamine use (meth, crystal, tina, etc.) among gay and bisexual men is up to 10 times higher than in the general population. A 2003 study by the Chicago Department of Public Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that approximately 10% of gay men had used methamphetamine at least once in the previous year, compared with less than 1% of the general US population. Of those gay men who reported using meth, 20% were using at least once per week.

Methamphetamine has also been linked to high risk behavior. A 2004-2005 survey of 503 gay and bisexual men in New York City examined the relationship of meth use with sexual risk behaviors. About half the men were under age 30. Meth use in the past year was reported by almost 15% of the men. Of those, over 70% used meth with sex. In particular, meth use was associated with unprotected receptive anal intercourse. This study and others confirm the association between meth use and increased sexual risk taking. Meth use has also been linked to a resurgence of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia infections.

Alcohol

Research on alcohol use among gay men and lesbians, when viewed as a whole, suggests that lesbians and gay men are more likely than their heterosexual counterparts to drink alcohol and to report alcohol-related problems. Differences in alcohol use based on sexual orientation also are more pronounced for women than for men. A study published in 2006 highlights how alcohol is impacting the lesbian community. Data from the Chicago

Health and Life Experiences of Women Study (CHLEW), showed that drinking and alcohol-related problems in a large and diverse sample of 447 lesbians were more pronounced than in the general population. The researchers found that lesbians of all ages drank more than women in the general population as well. These findings are significant since women in the general population tend to drink less as they get older. This and other research has shown that lesbians are at more risk for alcohol abuse and related problems.

The higher rates of behaviors such as smoking, drug use, and alcohol misuse among the GLBT population are not necessarily due to orientation per se, but are more likely a consequence of cultural and environmental factors associated with being part of a stigmatized and marginalized population. Understanding how these social and cultural factors interact with each other and with other risk factors is important to helping the GLBT community live healthier happier lives.

Resources:

www.recoveryconnection.org
1-800-993-3869

Muhlenberg Theatre's Dany Guy



Muhlenberg University student Dany Guy discusses his reason for wanting to bring Zanna Don't to the MU stage.

Gaydar Magazine: Why did you choose Zanna, Don't!?

Dany Guy: Aside from the fact that it is an all around amazing show, the play just spoke to me. It is the first gay theater piece that I've read where a gay couple has a happy ending. It sheds a new light on the fairy tale story from the gay perspective. We've all had the fantasy of our knight in shining armor coming to sweep us off our feet. Finally, here's a play that puts that fantasy on stage. Zanna Don't! is a hope for a better world. Besides being an advocator for gay rights, it is hysterical; I literally laugh out loud every time I read it.

GM: What has your experience been at Muhlenberg as a student, as a theatre major and as a gay man?

DG: Muhlenberg wasn't my first choice. I came to Muhlenberg thinking "well, if I don't like it I can always transfer." After my freshmen year I became so involved and in love with campus that I could never leave.

Muhlenberg has truly become

my second home; I love it here. The theater department has offered me so much, which I don't think I could have received at a conservatory program. I discovered my passion for directing here at Muhlenberg. My experiences here have been four of the best years of my life. As for being a gay man, it has been a very interesting experience. Within the theater department there is a great acceptance, and generally around campus most people are accepting too. There are still closed minded people on campus, but I don't let them effect me. I actually joined a fraternity when I was a sophomore, and one of my pledge brothers started off as this completely homophobic person. Now he tells me "if anyone gives you crap about being gay you let me know and I'll beat the shit out of them." Life is like that; you can't change everyone with a magic wand. If two people can learn and become excepting of each other's differences, they can be changed for the better. You have to take baby steps and can't expect everything in life to be perfect in an instance.



Front Row (L to R): Dana Parisi, Mike Biren, Monica Hanofee.
2nd Row: Anna Gothard, Erik Fiebiger, Back: Kennedy Kanagawa

Tim Acito's Off-Broadway Hit!

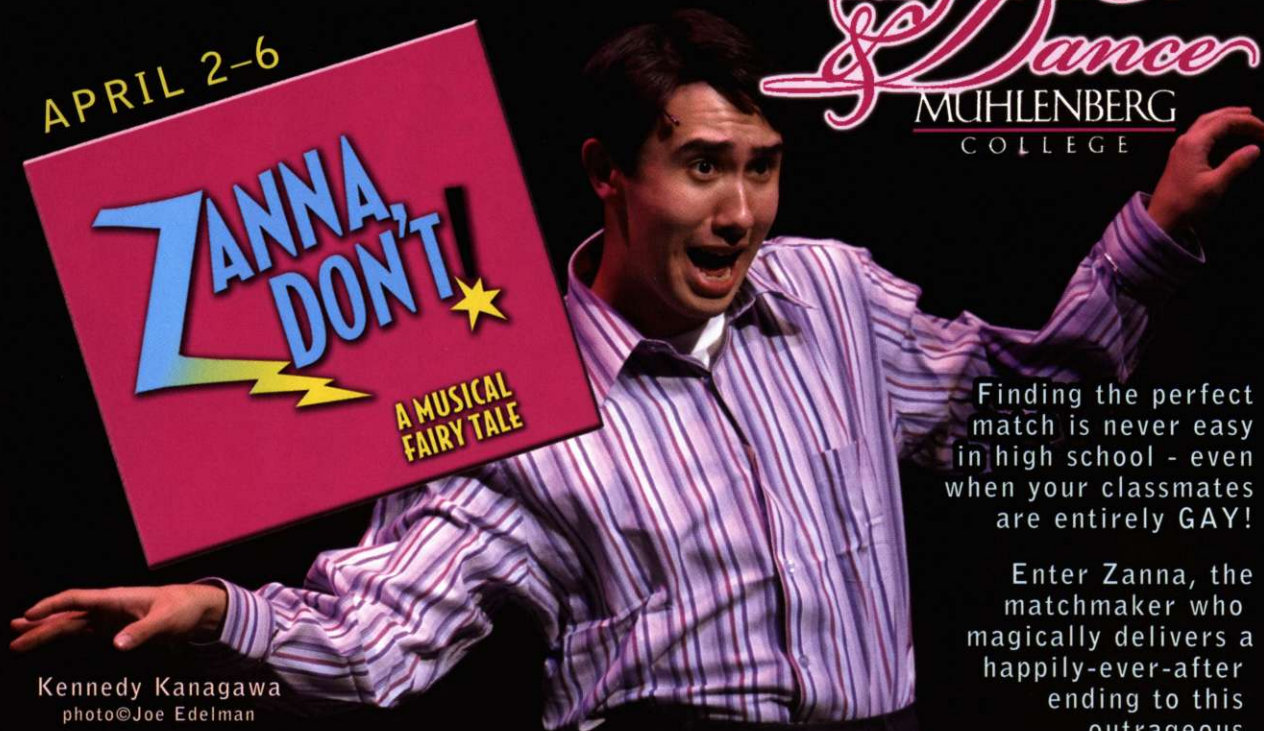
Muhlenberg production directed by Dany Guy

APRIL 2-6

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Kennedy Kanagawa
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I asked Bill (who directed an Angels in America that didn't so much bring the Tony winning drama to the Lehigh Valley as transport the Civic audience to Broadway) to compile the best of 2007. Of course he had to put his own spin on it. That's what makes him a great director. But, this is my magazine, b*tch! Oh yeah, he curses like a coal miner. Beware! (SL)

What's the...er... "best" in the theatre this past year? Well far be it from me to question the concept, but I have a hard time with "best" in the performing arts- especially in my chosen field of endeavor - it ain't like [pardon the unexpected sports metaphor] the Yanks against the Sox - who won more games? had the better record? It is comparing shows like Urinetown [genius in its innovation] with Thoroughly Modern Millie [tedious Tony winning best musical] or Mary Poppins with Spring Awakening or comparing the performances there in. It's always seemed a bit f*cking crazy. I mean how do you compare any performance or theatre piece or play or movie and call it best, perhaps favorite is better, or most admired, but best? Anyway I digress as I am one to do. I have to qualify saying this is the "most admired" of what I have seen. Also remember even though we are at the end of 2007 it is the middle of the theatre season which runs in NY and in most cases everywhere else from late summer early fall to early spring/summer of the next year. Sssssssssso....

The Winter's Tale at Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival - brilliantly directed and rarely done, the Lehigh Valley's jewel of professional company took a risk and scored big! Check out PSF if you haven't already. It's good Shakey and so much more!

Journey's End on Broadway - the best production - I've seen in years. Men in a foxhole during a pointless war. Written in 1928 and given a brilliant production with astounding and frightening performances - riveting.

The Nature Line by Omicron Theatre Project - a new play by the valley's youngest and most exciting company.

Love! Valour! Compassion! at Civic Theatre. The Valley premiere of Terrence McNally's gay Our Town. [Complete nepotistic disclosure - I directed it but I also assisted on the original Broadway and we had the honor of Joe Mantello's presence at a performance.]

Speaking of the Tony-award winning best [or should I say most admired] Mr. Mantello and nepotism I am changing the thrust of this article and saying to you all - who gives a sh*t what I think is best? Most of it is closed - you have no opportunity to see it anyway. The list will now include intriguing "theatricalz" of interest already running in NY or coming soon that you might want to catch.

Spring Awakening - If you haven't seen it - DON'T MISS IT. A turn of the century play about sexuality which has been done by every actor training program in America is revitalized with Duncan Sheik's rock score and Michael Mayer's staging. Don't sit on stage if it "your first time".

August: Osage County - The play to see!

November - Nathan Lane as an unpopular sitting president in a new play by David Mamet directed by Joe Mantello

Xanadu - haven't seen it, BUT could it be gayer?

Come Back Little Sheba - S. Epatha Merkerson [REBA the mail lady in Pee-wee!! she's a brilliant actor!] stars in the very gay Shirley Booth role which spawned an entire generation of drama queens.

Catered Affair - penned by Harvey Fierstein this new musical premiered at the Old Globe and will prove to be a three hanky laugh out loud sob fest for theatre queens everywhere... and Harvey plays the gay uncle!

Billy Elliot - Get you tickets now! Based on the film it comes to us from London where it deservedly won every "most admired" award you can win. It is brilliantly directed and staged and boasts a knockout score by Elton John - by far his best for the theatre.

The following is a list of "you must see if you haven't" gay plays.
Top 10 NOT! NOT! NOT! in order of preference or importance.

Angels In America

Falsettos

The Boys in the Band

Execution of Justice - the Harvey Milk Story

Love! Valour! Compassion!

The Laramie Project

Torch Song Trilogy

The Normal Heart

The Children's Hour

Bent



The Most In Theatre for 2007

Bottoms Up!

Warm Cocktails Are Hot, Hot, Hot!

by Lenora Dannelke

Winter is here. It's time to lace your snow boots – and your coffee. In chilly weather, spirited enhancements can transform a mundane mug of java into a cup of comfort and joy. And there's plenty of room for creativity when customizing your own seductive signature cocktail for fireside sipping.

According to Grant Barrette, food and beverage manager of the 39 Degrees Lounge at the Sky Hotel in Aspen, Colorado, mixing sweet liqueurs, cognac, brandy, rum, bourbon or whiskey into warm drinks produces an aromatic effect. "Most of these also go well with traditional hot beverages that are made with a base of hot chocolate, coffee or cider," he says. "Any time you can start with the freshest available products – for example, fresh ground coffee, homemade hot chocolate, favorite spices or fresh pressed cider – you are already one step ahead of the game."

Pairing similar taste profiles, such as Kahlua and coffee, Godiva Chocolate Liqueur and hot chocolate, or Calvados and cider, is a good foundation. However, a direct stand-alone matching of the base and alcohol flavors will result in a boring, one-dimensional drink. Instead, go for a ménage à trois cocktail: Adding Gosling's Black Rum, Nocello or Tuaca to the above pairings, respectively, delivers an intriguing complexity with spicy, lingering notes. For an extra dash of drama and fragrance, garnish drinks with hand-grated nutmeg.

Although formerly relegated to the dessert drink – a.k.a the frou-frou girly (or girly man) – category, warm cocktails currently play starring roles at the hippest bars across the country. "The hot drink popularity here in Aspen is directly correlated to patrons who are coming right in from the cold and looking for that 'warmer upper.' The aromatic effect alone gives you that warm inside feeling, even before the first sip," says Barrette. "Hot drinks can be easily consumed any time of day, mid-day off the mountain, in the evening before dinner or as an after dinner digestif."

Colorado Cachet

While 39 Degrees Lounge overhauls its stellar drink menu seasonally, the popularity of the following cocktail – which is featured in the book *Food & Wine's Cocktails 2007* – has earned an encore appearance this year. The best time to sample this fragrant concoction in person is during Aspen Gay Ski Week, which runs from January 13 to 20, 2008.

Snow Storm Café

1 oz. Frangelico
1/2 oz. Courvoisier VSOP (or similar cognac)
1/2 oz. Navan (or similar vanilla-flavored liqueur)
6 oz. freshly brewed coffee
Whipped cream
3 coffee beans

In an Irish coffee mug, mix the coffee the Frangelico, cognac and vanilla liqueur. Top with fresh whipped cream and garnish with coffee beans.

Pennsylvania Paragon

However, when a jaunt to Colorado doesn't fit your schedule, Bear Creek Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Macungie offers a convenient, Rocky Mountain-style alternative – even if you're not a ski-bunny or boarding bad-boy. The recently unveiled Spa at Bear Creek – featuring four massage rooms offering Swedish, hot stone, couples and tandem massages, plus such services such as facials, waxing, hydrotherapy, aromatherapy and light therapy – provides a rejuvenating experience to both slope-minded athletes and those who get their fill of fresh air and exercise walking from the parking to the lodge. Whatever your activity preference, the ruggedly handsome, fireplace-studded lounge and restaurant are both perfect for indulging in a sensuous, steamy cocktail. Following are two libations from the extensive hot drink menu devised by food and beverage manager Franco Brady.

Ski Lift

1 oz. peach schnapps
1 oz. coconut rum
6 oz. hot chocolate
Pour hot chocolate into mug or Irish coffee cup. Stir in schnapps and rum.

Brandy Almond Mocha

1 oz. brandy
1 oz. amaretto
6 oz. hot chocolate
Whipped cream
Pour hot chocolate into mug or Irish coffee cup. Stir in brandy and amaretto. Top with whipped cream.

Literary Merit

Thirsty for more? Theatre Outlet Plays with Food, a fund-raising cookbook with contributions from prominent chefs and restaurants, includes such intriguing recipes as these:

Japanese V
1 oz. vodka
1 oz. hot sake
4 oz. hot jasmine tea
1/2 oz. simple syrup
Lemon grass or basil

Combine first four ingredients in a mug or latte glass and stir. Garnish with a basil leaf or lemon grass stick.

Café Inferno

2 cubes sugar
1/2 shot Grand Marnier
1/2 shot brandy
1 strip orange peel
1 strip lemon peel
6 whole cloves
8 oz. good quality coffee

Slowly heat all ingredients except coffee in a saucepan until brandy begins to release its aroma after a few minutes. At this point, ignite the brandy and allow the flames to burn for 15 to 20 seconds. Next, ladle the brandy mixture into a mug of hot coffee and stir.

skibearcreek.com
theskyhotel.com
gayskiweek.com

To order copies of the book, call 610-820-9270 or visit www.theatreoutlet.org.

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David Moretti

Interview by Stephen Libby
Photo courtesy of Project Publicity

Gaydar Magazine: Hey David, please tell our readers how you were originally outed.

David Moretti: It was right after college. I broke up with my girlfriend and knew that I had to figure myself out because something just wasn't right. I was testing the waters with the whole on-line thing... I put up what I thought was a very vague picture of myself with my hat pulled low to hide my face. I talked with other guys who were in my position and tried to get myself comfortable with what I always knew in the back of my mind but never acted on. The carpet was totally pulled out from underneath me when a fraternity brother of mine – who was out and proud – recognized me on the site and email blasted my profile to the fraternity mailing list. Lucky for me, I

wasn't still IN the fraternity, but everyone was still really close and I felt alienated and alone. It was my only friend base out here. I tried denying it was me at first but as I realized that wasn't working, I went into hiding so to speak. It threw me further back in the closet for a while... but it did give me a lot of time to really grasp a hold of who I was before I finally made the decision to deal with it later on.

GM: How did this affect your life and what response did you get from your loved ones?

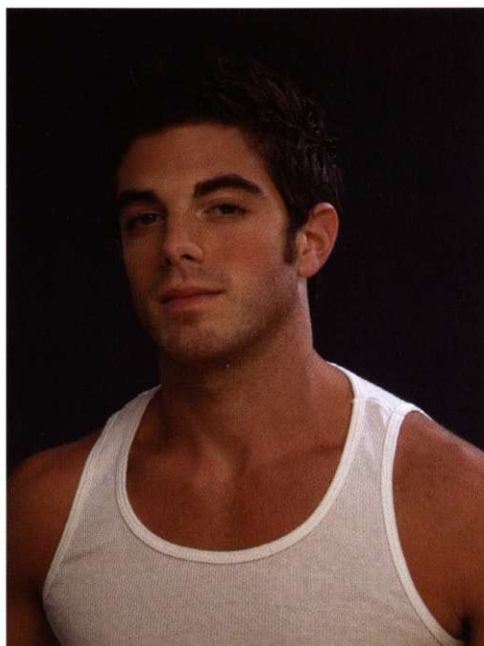
DM: My family didn't know until I told them last year. They are all in Rhode Island and luckily my Perez Hilton wannabe frat brother didn't get a hold of their email addresses. Once I finally engaged myself in gay culture, got great gay friends, and ultimately a boyfriend, I had the courage to tell them personally. I couldn't have asked for a better reception from my family. They have met my boyfriend and my Dad even went to Here Bar for my birthday – and LOVED it. He was so impressed with the atmosphere of the bar and everyone's friendliness that he wants to open a bar of his own with me!

GM: That is a great reception. Now you are an out and proud actor and starring in the here! program The Lair. Tell us how you got the job and why you decided to come out again publicly.

DM: I saw the audition posting on a website for actors and I submitted my headshot. No response. Taking a little bit of personal offense to not being considered for the role based on my headshot, I emailed the producer directly this time with my modeling card and requested an audition. That worked, and the next day I had 50 pages of material to prepare for the audition. By the way, most auditions are 4 pages. I was so overwhelmed that I really just read over the pages once and went in. I didn't allow myself to stress – which really works for me. The next day I went to the audition, which was at the penthouse of the Regent Entertainment Building. As it turned out, I read the script in front of the CEO of the network and the director of the show, as well as 2 other executives. This is unheard of for an actor because you usually have to go through 3 rounds of auditions before meeting people of that clout. But they had to get the show going so fast there was no time. I somehow pulled off a great read and was offered the job 24 hours later. Many people warned me not to take the part because an all gay show is taboo to "normal" Hollywood, but I said screw it, I came here to act and that's what I'm going to do. Being offered the lead in a series is an amazing opportunity for an actor at any level.

I decided to come out publicly after I shot the show. During shooting I really wouldn't talk about anything personal or sexual because there is a general consensus that an actor has to stay in the closet to climb to food chain here in Hollywood. However, I had a long conversation with Paul Colichman, here!tv's CEO, and he helped me realize what my coming out could mean for the acceptance of our culture in entertainment. If actors continually subscribe to the stereotype that you have to be straight to make it – nothing is ever going to change. Someone has to take the risk. I decided I ultimately wanted to be true to myself, and mold my career under my own terms. I hope to influence others to do the same.

GM: Lots of celebrities choose to stay in the closet their whole careers.



Congratulations for having the courage to come out. In your opinion, is Hollywood homophobic?

DM: Thanks! Yeah I never wanted to be one of those celebrities constantly paying publicists to cover their tracks. It would be a lonely, unfulfilling life for me if I had to hide like that. Now I don't want to just be known for being "that gay guy" – but rather a great actor who's gay. It's soooo not a big deal and I hope I can help people realize that.

Hollywood is really only homophobic toward the actor. It's a complete double standard. A vast amount of mainstream directors and producers are gay and out, but the movies they make "won't sell in the midwest" if their leads are gay. The notion is that the general audience would never believe their leading men on screen, if they knew they were going home to another man when the camera is off.

I'm here to change that standard.

GM: I'm kinda disappointed that you have a boyfriend. I was going to invite you to my place for a sleep over? I've been told I make great blueberry pancakes. So tell us about the boyfriend. How does he deal with the media attention and your career?

DM: Yes, I'm in a fantastic relationship right now with my boyfriend Harvey. He's the love of my life. As a matter of fact, I knew that if I did the whole closeted actor thing, bringing fake girlfriends to premiers and what not, I would lose him. That was a huge factor in me coming out publicly as well. My relationship just means too much to me, and he doesn't deserve to be shut out. I want him there with me wherever I go. He's a huge support for me.

I will add that he doesn't exactly love seeing me hop into bed with costars – but I think he secretly thinks it's hot.(laughs) And I know it can be weird to be in a relationship where one person is in the public eye, so I promised him I'd get pictures of the two of us published eventually. He's not an actor (yet) but he is a complete attention whore - not to mention beautiful - so he'll get off on that. Now about breakfast...did I mention we BOTH love blueberry pancakes ;) Can you add some bananas and chocolate chips to them? I'll start packing our Scooby-doo PJ's now!

GM: Sweet! I'll leave the back door open. I love this job!! So, what's next for you?

DM: Season 2 is in the works. I also shot some episodes of Dante's Cove season 3 coming out in October, where my character crossed over in an evil-twin-cameo of sorts. Aside from that, I'm really focusing on finding the right team to lead my career path. Believe it or not, it is pretty hard to find a great agent with the vision to direct the career of an out actor. I've even been turned down by gay agents because they aren't willing to take the risk... yet another example of the double standard. A working actor who's the lead of a TV show rejected by a gay agent not willing to take the risk. Kinda funny, huh? Like I said though, I knew it was going to be an uphill battle from the get-go and I LOVE a challenge. Lucky for me I've made friends with great people like Chad Allen and Robert Gant who are really helping me prepare for what's ahead. I'm as excited as ever to see what happens.

GM: So are we David. Best of luck in everything. Oh, can you guys grab syrup on your way over? Thanks!

Shaun McCarron & Paul Anderson

"The Janice Dickinson Modeling Agency"

Interview by Stephen Libby

Photo by Andrew Briskin

You know you're going to watch the new season of Janice Dickinson's Modeling Agency so we thought we'd introduce you to a real life couple of gay boys who will be featured. Don't fight it, just enjoy.



Gaydar Magazine: How did you meet and how long have you been together?

Shaun & Paul: We met about 3 years ago at Gold's Gym. We know... how stereotypical! We've been together ever since.

GM: Had you worked together before the Janice Dickinson Modeling Agency?

S&P: Yes, we produced events together during Gay Days in Orlando, and worked on other events locally.

GM: What challenges to your relationship do you anticipate will arise while on JDMA?

S&P: There is no challenge that the The Janice Dickinson Modeling Agency show could present us that we have not already been through. Living in the "Gay" world that we do, we have already been exposed to every distraction and temptation possible. Our view is anything put in our way will only make us stronger working through it together.

GM: Who gets more boys' numbers when you go out? Who has the bigger jealous bone?

S&P: Shaun gets the most numbers usually, but I can keep up if you give me a few drinks! Getting numbers is never our number one priority when going out. We are never jealous of each other actually. We are always like "wow... good for you!"

GM: How are your families with your relationship and career choices?

S&P: Our families are very supportive and excited for us. Wherever our careers go, they are always proud of our accomplishments.

Favorites

Ice cream:

Shaun: Far from what I am... Plain Vanilla

Paul: loves choc. Chip cookie dough Ben and Jerry's. with Nerd candies sprinkled on top!

Thing to do on a snowy winter day:

Shaun: Get on a snow mobile

Paul: Snuggle by a crackling fire with hot chocolate

Underwear:

Shaun: Papi (Red only)

Paul: Andrew Christian and Gosoftwear

Cocktail:

Shaun: Margarita

Paul: Vodka w/ Diet Tonic and extra Lime

Automobile:

Shaun: Mercedes c350 sport (just purchased)

Paul: My big truck

Movie:

Shaun: Scarface and Shawshank Redemption

Paul: Willow and The Wizard of Oz

Song:

Shaun: "Paint It Black"

Paul: My tastes are way to eclectic, there are thousands. Anything Mariah (my baby) or with a beat (If you want to be specific Tribal House)

Superhero:

Shaun: Magneto

Paul: Phoenix

Hottie:

Shaun: He is straight, don't want to embarrass him, but he knows who he is.

Paul: Same person ;-)

Donny Miller

Interview by Stephen Libby

Gaydar Magazine: Love the calendar and the book! What's behind the name Beautiful People with Beautiful Feelings?

Donny Miller: It's my take on how self-absorbed people are. To me, people think mostly about themselves. Which isn't bad, but some people take it a little too far.

GM: The images really "pop". What's the story behind your artwork?

DM: Most of it is clip art and some of it I drew. I wanted to use clip art, because it's a low-end form of art, but I made them look more expensive with a little color. Kind of like going to the thrift store and making your own thing out of an old sweatshirt. Reconstruction is really popular. People reconstruct clothing, art, music, movies. I proclaim this the reconstruction era.

GM: What's been the response from the gay community?

DM: I'm a gay icon. No, I know this much: lot's of gay guys like my work a bunch. I was hoping you could tell me. The editor in chief of Flaunt told me once, "You think like a gay man. Are you sure you're not gay?" There's this guy, Bradford Shellhammer, and he has a blog and he writes about me every once in a while. Nice guy. There are a lot of young gay guys on Myspace as well. I've sold a lot of art pieces to gay men. I make them on canvas.

GM: If Salvador Dali and George Clooney had a baby I would expect him to look a lot like your photo. You have this suave, sophisticated presentation. How's that working for you with the ladies? Do you get hit on by gay men?

DM: Well, I'm married, so I guess it worked out pretty well. My wife was the acting hairstylist on the shoot. She was my girlfriend then. I know how to take a picture. I don't really look that debonair all the time. I only know this because people would say, "That's you?" I started, as a joke, telling people I was the most handsome artist in the world. People thought I was serious and started giving me shit. It just made me laugh. Dali and Clooney? I'm flattered. I went to the premier of "Goodnight and Good Luck" and I got to meet George Clooney. Let me just tell you that he's the funniest dude I've ever met. So charming it makes you ill. I don't really get hit on too much by gay men and I live near West LA. That's it! I'm going to Hamburger Mary's for lunch tomorrow.

GM: What is your next project?

DM: Well, I just finished an erotic coloring book. The US Constitution Erotic Coloring Book. Exactly what it sounds like. I don't feel enough people are familiar with the Constitution. I have a vinyl toy coming out from Super Rad Toys. Then another book. In fact, this piece: "The hardest thing to do" will be in the new book. It's different from the last book. It will have many more "public art" pieces in it or art that I do on the street, like this piece I did called "99 cents only" (see youtube) where I put up a 99 cents only store coming soon sign on a vacant store on Rodeo Dr. in Beverly Hills and taped the reactions. I'm doing more pieces like that.

The hardest thing to do in art is something original.



Donny Miller

Photo by Ben Clark



Now that you're my problem,
who will I tell my problems to?

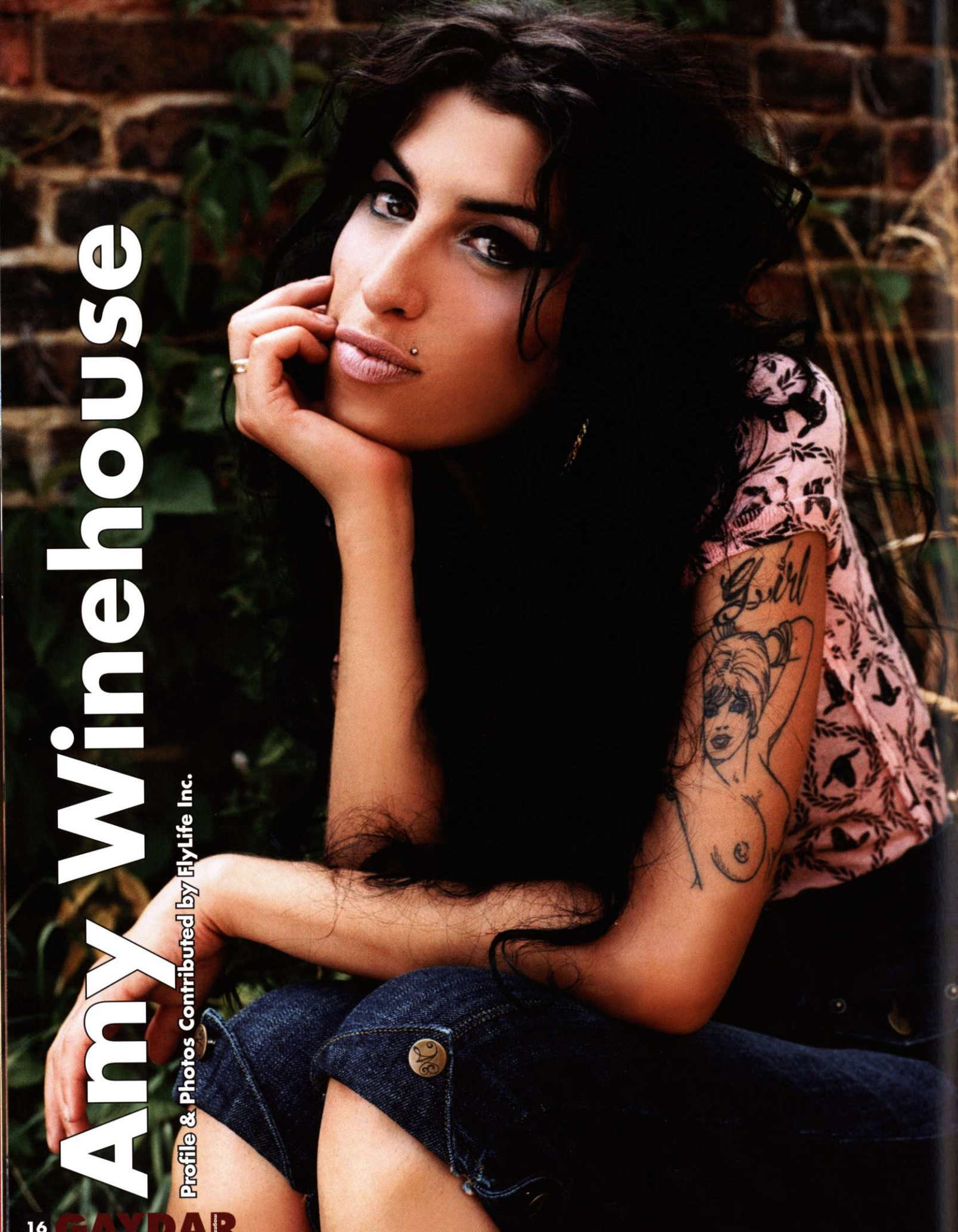


It only hurts if you care.



Amy Winehouse

Profile & Photos Contributed by FlyLife Inc.



That voice. That hair. Those tattoos. That heroin-chic figure. The Rehab song. The rehab rumours. The tabloid coverage. The Gammy nominations. Yes, she's a mess, but she's a talented mess. She burst onto the American music scene this year with the inescapable "Rehab" from my favourite album of the year, *Back to Black*. Keep Britney, Lindsay and Paris. Amy Winehouse is my idea of a good time. Bitter, bitchin' and ballsy. Here's a brief bio on the woman with the smoky voice who won't go, go, go. (SL)

Two years ago, in the middle of the campaign for her universally acclaimed, platinum selling debut "Frank", Amy Winehouse began thinking about what she'd like to do with her second record. Frank was her grand and suitably blunt-speaking break-up record, sometimes a little bitter, with a maturity in the vocal delivery that was never less than sweet. It won her a battalion of fans around the world and marked her out as one of the most distinct new voices in pop; confessional, elemental and with that rarest of combinations: humour and soul. Amy had cut through to the core of the human condition with her debut, adding her own jazzy witticisms to the legacy of the greats. So how to follow it up?

Musically, she was sure where she wanted to go. "I didn't want to play the jazz thing up too much again" she says now, sitting in the snug of her favourite Camden boozer, "I was bored of complicated chord structures and needed something more direct. I'd been listening to a lot of girl-groups from the fifties and sixties. I liked the simplicity of that stuff. It just gets to the point. So I started thinking about writing songs in that way." You can hear it on the subtly Supremes-referencing intro of *Back To Black*. But her reach stretches further. While the girl-groups of the sixties to which she had become enthralled contained their vocals, Amy can break loose with Aretha-style vocal stylings on "Just Friends" or by turning the whole idea of drying out into a gospel spiritual on the stunning opener "Rehab". Which other female British singer could turn the opening line on her album - "try to make me go to rehab/I say no, no, no" into a churchy stomp.

Armed, as ever, with only her acoustic guitar, a packet of ever-present fags and a bursting imagination, Amy set about distilling her experiences since the arrival of Frank into song. She is one of the most delightful storytellers on the subject of her own inspiration. "If I haven't done it, I just can't put it into a song. It has to be autobiographical." Songwriting for Amy is like keeping a journal. "It's an exorcism. I get all my stuff out there. If I didn't have this medium to get my experiences across, I would be lost." 'Lost' in Amy's language



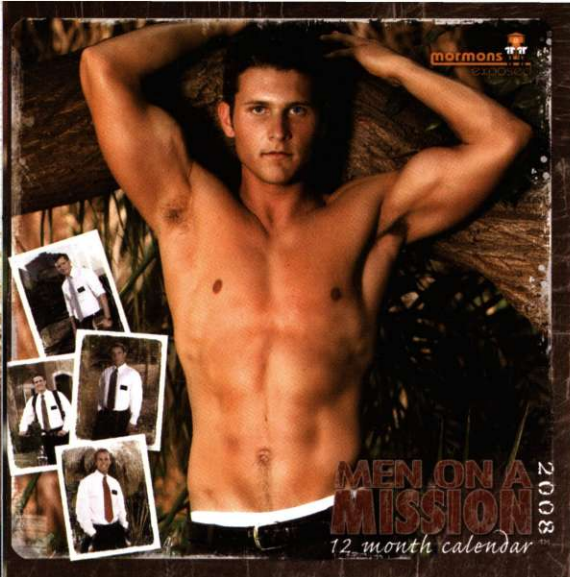
concur with the 'lost' of the soul greats: just listen to her heartbreaking metaphors in the sublime "Love is a Losing Game". This is classic modern songwriting and delivery; brief, to the point and drenched in emotion.

So to the experiences themselves. Where to start? The Nas gig that she didn't get to go to because some guy wouldn't get her a ticket? How do you manage to turn that into a tale of female empowerment, as she does on the superb *Me and Mr Jones*. The eternal love triangle of one ex-boyfriend who she knew was no use and a new one who has his name emblazoned right next to her heart in a tattoo? The pain of heartbreak? The joy of new love? The stunning personal epiphany that perhaps you can behave just as badly as all those guys that have messed you around and stamped all over you, as she declares unapologetically on "I'm No Good"?

Or the feeling that when things go wrong you deteriorate into a black space that you have to physically lift yourself out of? That's

there on the bluesy smooch of the title track, "Back To Black". While she is interested in deep emotional resonance of love both lost and found, she is just as happy decrying the boy who comes round to her house and smokes all her pot "Addicted". Amy is one funny, smart lady. And does it need pointing out that there's hardly enough of those to go round in the current pop milieu.

Amy's refined new songwriting approach has been grafted onto some of the most astonishing, stunning material of her short career so far. Her fearlessness as a lyric writer has no peer. While other girls of her young vintage - she's still only 22 - like to turn a comic motif out of their relationship histories or deal in generic pop emotions, she smarts at the idea of being anything less than brutally honest. "What's the point of not being?" she quizzes, with a sanguine charm. Yet she knows she can be funny too. "You've got to get that in there. Life is funny and sad, sometimes both at the same time."



Men on a Mission

Calendar Model Jonathan Martin Interview by Stephen Libby Contributed Photos

You've seen them on bikes or canvassing door to door and fantasized about them out of their white shirts and ties. Well, your prayers have been answered. We talk with Jonathan Martin, one of the models from the Men on a Mission Calendar. Amen!

Gaydar Magazine: What was your first thought when approached with the idea of Men on a Mission? How long did it take for you to agree to take part?

Jonathan Martin: I actually thought it to be a joke. I was sitting on the MSN Messenger with a photographer friend of mine when I got the email on MySpace (www.myspace.com/officialjonathanmartin) about it. At first, I didn't know what to think about it except that it had to be some sort of joke. I mean, how could it not be, right? We laughed about it, and I put it to the side. After a couple of days, my curiosity got the better of me, and I emailed them back about it. The whole thing really was legit (which is something I really wasn't sure about), and that if tastefully done could be a hit. Once the emails between Chad (the creator) and I were exchanged, I was offered a chance to audition. I was never able to, so instead I sent some photos of myself. I was quickly offered a chance to be one of the 12 models in the calendar, and after having some of my concerns and hesitations smoothed over, I accepted the part. The aftermath is what you see now. Overall, I would say from contact to acceptance was roughly two weeks. I'm very open to new ideas, and it didn't take me long to see what a great time and opportunity 'Men on a Mission' could be.

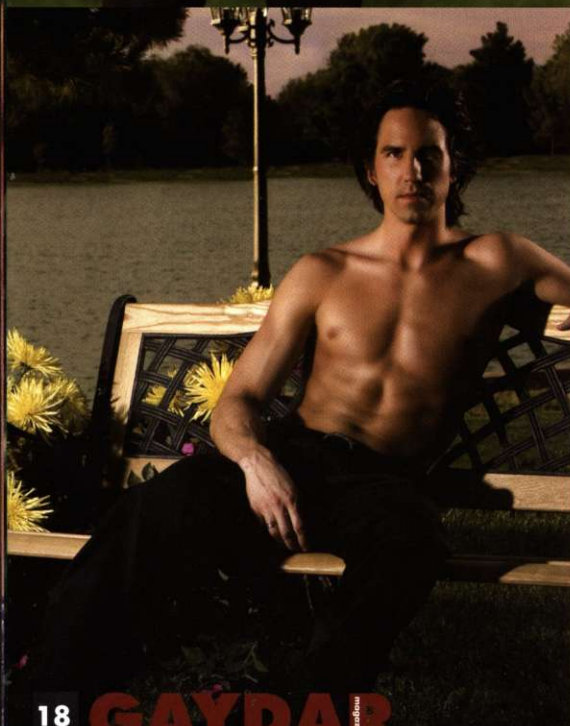
Gaydar Magazine: Do you have a girlfriend? If so, how has she reacted? If not, is this going to be a way for you to meet women?

JM: Indeed, I do have a girlfriend. That's the tease, right? She and I began dating before the calendar was ever released, but not before I was offered the chance to be a "hot scoop of hello" on the calendar. She is also LDS (Mormon), and she's always sported a cheeky smile about it. She's never hesitant to tell people about it, or show it off to her friends and co-workers. I think she's tickled by

the thought that her man is, of all things, Mr. April in a beefcake calendar. I think she's most proud of the fact that I've been on the front page of tmz.com a couple of times because of it. As for meeting women at this time, if any of them happen to be an agent or film executive, I'd be more than happy to meet them. I do, after all, have a couple of screenplays under my belt I want to sell.

Gaydar Magazine: Now that you're beefcake, what's been the response from your family and friends?

JM: Funny story here. A couple of winters ago, some girlfriends of mine and I were talking about Chip n' Dale's calendars, and as a joke I told them that I could do exactly what those guys did. So I went off and hired a photographer, and we went out to the Great Salt Lake for an afternoon shoot. Now, it just so happens that it's the dead of winter, two days before Christmas, and I'm wearing next to nothing. We get the shoot done, I get the girls their "calendar shots" (which to this day we still have a laugh about), and my reward: The flu for three days over Christmas. Of course, I really am beefcake now. So, once again, the last laugh is mine. As for my family and friends, that response has been highly positive. Some people have been a bit hesitant, but even they come around. They see that it's not only a great opportunity for myself, but that it's also a great way to help break down so many of the stereotypes and misconceptions of Mormons all over the world. I mean, let's be honest with ourselves, most people don't have the first clue as to what Mormons are really all about and this has been a great way to help not only entertain, but educate people as well. In the end, I think the thing that has shocked most people is that I had to get my chest waxed for the shoot. All I can say is that at least it wasn't my butt.





Vanessa Carlton – Heroes & Thieves

Even a major set back like being dropped from her label can't stop Vanessa Carlton from doing what she does best... putting out truly great music. Despite her new home on The Inc., home to artists like JaRule, this album delivers exactly what we would expect. Like her other two albums the songs on this album, including the very passionate love song "Hands On Me" give the same fairy tale like feelings. Carlton also passes on some heavy words of wisdom on the title track "Heroes and Thieves". For more albums that might give you the same warm fuzzy feelings check out "Chase This Light" by Jimmy Eat World and "Coco" by Colbie Caillat.



Will.i.am. – Songs About Girls

The mastermind behind the Black Eye Peas and Fergie's solo album leaves a new mark on music by dropping his own solo disc. This album gives you exactly what the title of the disc promises...songs about girls. Aimed to please the radio and club scene the flow follows the progression of a break up and the feelings that follow. Though lacking some of the hard hitting punch you expect from the B.E.P's and Miss Fergie Ferge, the album is worth a listen and would work well within the right party mix. For more of Will.i.am's work check out "The Dutchess" by Fergie and "Elephunk" by the Black Eye Peas.



The Pipettes – We Are The Pipettes

Finally! The Pipettes have released the full-length album to follow up the girls first E.P. "Your Kisses Are Wasted On Me". Bringing back the hit title track of their E.P. the girls let you know exactly who they are, and that they aren't going anywhere anytime soon. These girls exude a sexy and fun style in both their videos and through their music and you can't help but have a smile on your face when you are listening to them! For more music that's going to make you "Pull Shapes" check out their first E.P. or Camera Obscura's "If Looks Could Kill".



Starrbooty – Original Motion Picture Soundtrack

YOU BETTER WORK! That's right, Ms. RuPaul is back and she is as fierce as ever in the movie Starrbooty! This soundtrack not only includes the music featured within movie, but also the music numbers and selected dialogue. This disc is sure to please anyone who is looking for something to shake his or her booty to and have a good laugh also. Some other albums to check out if you are ready to dance and also have a sense of humor are RuPaul's - Supermodel to the World or Jeffrey Starr's – Plastic Surgery Slumber Party.



Angie Stone – The Art of Love and War

The beautiful and certainly soulful Ms. Stone returns to the charts with her new album "The Art of Love and War". This album is great for getting the mood going, and to keep it going with sultry tracks like "Baby" and "These Are The Reasons". On of the reasons this disc might exude a feeling of past soul hit makers is that it was laid down in Marvin Gaye's Los Angeles recording studio, helping to really bring some soul to tracks like "Make It Last" and "Half a Chance". Other great matches for this album include "The Collection" by Eric Roberson and "The Real Thing – Words and Sounds, Vol. 3" by Jill Scott.



KT Tunstall – Drastic Fantastic

Combining Pop-Rock with 70's Power-Pop/New Wave Tunstall re-introduces us to her unique sound on her sophomore album with the track "Little Favours". On tracks like "I Don't Want You Now" and "Saving My Face" Tunstall gives you a piece of her mind and reminds you of the mark she made with her trade mark voice when she first emerged on the scene with "Black Horse and a Cherry Tree". Feist's "The Reminder" and Ingrid Michaelson's "Boys and Girls" are great choices if you like female artists with a unique voice.



Ledisi – Lost and Found

Focusing on topics mainly dealing with relationships, Ledisi's new album "Lost and Found" is something that almost anyone can relate to, even if R&B isn't your preferred pick. "You and Me" and "Best Friend" are both tracks about the special relationships between two people, "Best Friends" is a progression is a progression when a simply friendships turn into more and "You and Me" is about the connection between a couple who's already been together for a while. But outside of songs about love and relationships, "Today" is a beautiful song of affirmation about how things can change for the better. On par with Ledisi, Lil' Mo's "Pain and Paper" along with Keite Young's "The Rise and Fall of Keite Young" when it comes to lyrical and musical content.



Chaka Khan – Funk This

It's been ten years since Chaka's last studio album, but the time away from the microphone doesn't mean any of the dust that may have collected on it since her absence will hinder any of the high notes she is known for hitting. "Back In the Day" and "Super Life" carry a heavy beat and are great for the club floor while "Ladies Man" and "Castles Made of Sand" portray the sensual howls and growls we've come to know and love soooooo much. Ms. Khan has certainly shown us that even at age fifty three she is not going anywhere and that she'll be around for a while yet to inspire us all with funk. Also two albums to pick up while you've already got this in your hand are "Will Downing's "After Tonight" and "This Is Love" by Ann Nesby.

JULIE BROWN

Photos courtesy of Divas & DJ's

Interview by Stephen Libby

For gays of a certain age, the title "The Homecoming Queen's Got a Gun" is the only re-introduction needed. For the rest of you, may I please present Julie Brown...

Gaydar Magazine: I really don't know where to start with you. Your resume reads like a wish list answered by a fairy godmother. You're a comedian, an actress, a singer, producer, writer... The list goes on. Do you ever feel guilty about being so talented? Like you took all the talent from the...talent place...and left none for anyone else...except, Meryl Streep, of course. There was a question in there. Did you find it?

Julie Brown: Absolutely. I mean, there's only so much talent to go around and I really should have left some for poor actresses like Jessica Alba and Jessica Simpson. All the Jessica's are pretty much talent-free. I guess Meryl and I have hogged it all!

GM: I feel pressure to come up with a Homecoming Queen question. How about: Does the homecoming queen still have a gun? Or, why no sequel like "The Homecoming Queen has a Machete", or "The Homecoming Queen Invades Iraq".

JB: I know I'd really like to do one and I thought of this recently. What do you think? You know the line at the end, "I did it for Johnny?" What if Johnny was a girl? Like it Debbie's a secret lesbian? But then I did write the song about how crazy a boy can make a girl, so maybe I should do one where the Homecoming Queen has a bigger, better weapon. A smart bomb? I'm open to suggestions.

GM: I have a friend who performed "Cause I'm a Blonde" for a drag contest and finished second. What's the estimate of drag queens who have performed your songs? And the estimate for those who finished second?

JB: Boy that's tough. I mean I've had so many guys tell me that they've done my songs and it kind of pissed me off. I mean, shouldn't I get a cut of any prize money? I'm just kidding. It's been my dream since I was small girl with a very effeminate best friend (who was actually named Johnny) to somehow create material so we could all put on a show, and I think I've succeeded.

GM: "I Like 'em Big & Stupid", too! Was this hit based on a real guy? Seriously, who was the biggest & stupidest guy you ever made it with?

JB: Well, not one real guy. Sort of a type of guy I found myself attracted to. But aren't we all? I mean, small and smart? I don't think so, right? The biggest and stupidest guy was big surprise, an actor I met in acting school. The amazing thing was, for such a moron, he really knew what he was doing!

GM: C'mon, you recorded these songs. You knew the titles were going to come back to haunt you some day. Segue to Earth Girls Are Easy. Smooth, huh? Everyone loves this movie. After co-writing it (12 times) how could you get bumped for Geena Davis? Do you still hate her?

JB: I didn't really know these titles would haunt me. I thought they were funny and kind of true at the time I wrote them. And Earth Girls are Easy? After co-writing it, how did I get bumped for the gifted-comedian Geena Davis? And do I still hate her? The answers are "I have no fucking idea" and "yes". Actually, I do know. She and Jeff Goldblum (her big and stupid guy of the moment) were dating and they came as a package and the studio thought they had the "names" to sell the movie. And they had just been in "The Fly" together so everyone wanted to cash in on that chemistry.

GM: Do You Dare to be Truthful? What was Madonna's reaction to your hilariously spot on spoof Medusa: Dare to be Truthful?

JB: She's had mixed reactions. While we were shooting it, she sent me a half-drunk bottle of champagne which I assumed still had her spit in it with a note that said, "Good luck!". Then when it came out she had her agent call my manager and say she loved it. Then I heard from mutual friends that she HATED the scene where I try to dig up my dead dog because I was making fun of when she went to her mom's grave and rolled around on it wearing a halter dress. I mean, she was in pain, for christ sakes! Recently, I heard she had a scene from it on her website. So who knows?

GM: Were there any roles or opportunities you were offered that you now wish you had taken?

JB: Yeah, Jerry Seinfeld asked me out once and I said no. The role of his girlfriend/wife would have been sweet, right? All that Seinfeld money!!

GM: What we've mentioned here so far would be enough for most mortals to brag about for the rest of their lives. But, not you. Not Julie Brown. Tell us what you're doing now and what's next for our favorite Goddess in Progress.

JB: I just finished shooting a movie called "Camp Rock" for Disney that I wrote and I play one of the camp counselors and they said it's going to be the next "High School Musical". God, I hope that's true. And lots more performing live. And I'm trying to sell and or raise the money to direct this super funny movie I wrote called, "The Ugly Truth about Beauty," that I know my gay fans would especially like. At this point, I only gear my material for the gays. Straight people confuse me!

2007 A Bloody Great Year At The Movies

by Paul Willistein- That's Entertainment?

Bloody well right.

And a violent year it was at the movies in 2007, especially when you consider the best movies.

There was mayhem, deceit, gore (No, not Al Gore. --- although with his Nobel Prize, the inconvenient truth is it only seemed he had another movie out there) -- all extremely painful to watch. And that was just Nicole Kidman's makeup in "The Golden Compass."

As you plan your awards show parties -- the Oscars are Feb. 24, with nominee announcements Jan. 22; the Golden Globes are Jan. 13 -- try to remember 2007 for what it wasn't as much as for what it was (kind of like your last relationship, right?).

It was not a year of an abundance of light comedy, no doubt because writer-director Judd Apatow ("Knocked Up," "Superbad") and his troupe (Steve Carell, Seth Rogan et al) rewrote the rules and made most rom-coms superfluous.

It was not a year for knock-down, can't stop the musicals (i.e., no "Chicago," "Dreamgirls" -- unless you count Marie Osmond taking the vapors on "Dancing with the Stars"), although "Hairspray," which Oscar may sniff at while the Golden Globes warmly embraces, with John Travolta showing he's more than a woman, was divine, Johnny Depp proved he could carry a tune as well as his sword in "Sweeney Todd," and Marion Cotillard was a revelation as Edith Piaf in "La Vie en Rose."

It was a year of great expectations and great disappointments. Few of the Iraq-Afghanistan war movies connected critically and less so at the box office ("The Valley of Elah," "Rendition," "The Kingdom").

It was a year of great performances in not so great films: Cate Blanchett in "The Queen: The Golden Age" (We so wanted to hear David Bowie's "Golden Years" during the end credits roll.); Jodie Foster in "The Brave One" (What was brave was Jodie agreeing to be in this femme vigilante revenge tale.) and Angelina Jolie as assassinated journalist Richard Pearl's wife in "A Mighty Heart" (Unlike with "Beowulf," Angelina faded into this role).

It was a year when old school, nee '70s style no-frills film-making, trumped CGI (with the possible exception of Angelina's stem cell stilettos in "Beowulf") and reaffirmed the ascendancy of plain old good acting.

Following, in alphabetical order, is my Top 10 list of movies released in 2007 that will be remembered long after the red carpet walk, the



Brittany Snow as Amber Von Tussle gets "sprayed".

Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema

after-parties' hangover and Joan Rivers' latest face lift (no wonder Regis Philbin is dishing the carpet this year).

3:10 to Yuma -- Everyone liked the Denzel Washington- Russell Crowe dance in "American Gangster." Deserved Oscar best actor nominee Crowe cut way deeper as the outlaw's outlaw in this brilliant remake by director James Mangold ("Walk the Line," "Copland," "Girl, Interrupted") of the 1957 western. Christian Bale was nicely understated and Peter Fonda was perfectly overstated.

Atonement -- This costume epic is the kind of movie Oscar traditionally likes (although 1992 best picture "Silence of the Lambs" and last year's "The Departed" indicate that's increasingly less so). Movie-goers and critics are all gaga over Keira Knightley, and why not? She's British. She's beautiful. She can act. She's the twentysomething star of the moment.

Away From Her -- If Oscar alone could choose, Julie Christie would be the best actress nominee and winner for her searing turn as an Alzheimer

patient. Director Sarah Polley's somber, yet mirthful, meditation was a wakeup call for the Sandwich Generation. Something to look forward to. With fine work by Gordon Pinsent, Olympia Dukakis and Michael Murphy.

Before the Devil Knows You're Dead -- Old Master Sidney Lumet ("Network," "Dog Day Afternoon," "Serpico" and so many more) surely deserves an Oscar nomination, and probably the win (An honorary Oscar is never enough and with this classic, Lumet told the Academy "I ain't dead yet") for this family trauma, with yet another transcendent performances by Philip Seymour Hoffman and amazing performances by Ehan Hawke, Albert Finney (surely, a best supporting Oscar nominee) and Marisa Tomei.

Eastern Promises -- Any film that has Viggo Mortensen fighting in the nude -- in a steambath, no less -- has to be on a Top 10 list. 'Nuff said? Leave it to the extraordinary David Cronenberg ("A History of Violence," "Crash," "The Fly") to give us From Russia with Fear and Loathing. With chilling supporting work by Naomi Watts, Jerzy Skolimowski, Vincent Cassel and Armin Mueller-

Chris Cornell

He was frontman for Soundgarden and Audioslave which led to him being voted one of MTV's 25 greatest voices in rock. As a solo artist he helped restore some dignity to the James Bond franchise by writing and performing You Know My Name from the latest 007 film, Casino Royale. He has a new solo disc out called Carry On. He's smart and sexy and coming to a city near you!

Gaydar Magazine: How are you? Where are you?

Chris Cornell: In Cleveland. I performed here last night and will be in Columbus tonight.

GM: Describe life on the road.

CC: The same way it's always been. Hotel rooms, stages, hotel rooms, stages. Endless line of that.

GM: How long does the tour run?

CC: Forever. I'm trying to take the cycle out of what I do. Which has always been annoying to me. I don't think it helps to dedicate all your time to one thing like recording and then go on the road. Then come off the road and dedicate all your time to another thing. Each of those things span over a year or a year and a half. It becomes almost time wasting. When you're off the road for a year and half it takes a while to get back in that saddle and learn how to play songs live again and rehearse. It's just nicer to never have that many months out of the studio or off the stage.

GM: How would being on the road constantly affect your personal relationships?

CC: My family comes out a lot. My wife has traveled her whole life and our children have traveled since they were born, so that part's pretty easy.

GM: How was the crowd at Croc Rock last Wednesday in Allentown?

CC: It was great! The ceiling was dripping. That's a good thing. When the ceiling is dripping it means there are probably too many people and they are not just standing there.

GM: They are breathing heavy and the bar owner's gotta be happy with that.

CC: (laughs) Yeah.

GM: Your voice has been called one of alternative rock's most elastic instruments. You placed 12th on MTV's list of Greatest Voices in Rock Survey. The single most dynamic rock and roll force produced by the grunge revolution. When you read these statements and realize they are talking about you, how do you feel?

CC: Part of it is 'oh, good', cuz part of it's like a trophy or an accomplished thing. No one can take that away from me. A lot of what I do it's difficult to say what it means concretely. When you're in a successful band, you really don't know what the future perception will be. No one can ever guess. I was a big fan of Elvis Costello and Joe Jackson when I was a kid. They aged differently although to me they were the same. So, it's nice. There's a certain amount of an impact that I had and I have as a singer and a songwriter. But at the same time it doesn't really help me to do anything. It doesn't make it any easier to...sing. Or, to write or record a record. That, I suppose, is a good thing, because it keeps me interested and striving and learning. I always feel like I have to discover some new part of whatever I do. That's been going on for twenty years.

GM: You seem pretty grounded where these accolades might turn someone else into a complete ass.

CC: (laughs) Yeah. Ya know if I was 21 and reading these things...which happens...there are kids that come out and the press goes crazy and makes predictions and makes unproved statements and then...I've watched that in other people. Like the Terrence Trent D'Arby response, 'yeah, I am that great. I'm even better than that. You guys don't even know.' You fall and vanish. Then there's the Prince version which is he's running around saying it first and no one will listen. He says, 'you'll get it someday'. He'd say it on stage and people would be booing and he'd say, 'I'm a superstar. Watch!' Five, six years go by and they're buying tickets to his movie going 'he's a superstar!' My career moved slowly but surely. A lot of people in popular music are really hungry and work for it until they achieve a certain amount of success and then suddenly they announce they're real dream was to be a race car driver or to be a pilot and have they're own jet. To me music kinda beats everything...still. I like to ride motorcycles and snowboard, but that's a moment here or a moment there. Outside of my family, music is at the top of my

list. It's like a hobby I get to do for a living.

GM: Not only is Casino Royale a return to form for the James Bond series but You Know My Name is at last a memorable and cool James Bond song. You've scored music for other films. What was the process for Royale?

CC: With Casino Royale I saw two thirds of it edited had the original Ian Fleming book, had the script. It's a lot to have when writing a song because most songs are written with one simple idea. Like Black Whole Sun was something I misheard from a news anchor. But the words stuck in my head because it created a strange image. And that's typically how songs get made in the real world. To have a book and a script and the memory of seeing all the other James Bond films...there has to be a way to connect yourself to the script or the book. In this first book the agent is not this invincible superhero. So it was easy to relate to. Another Bond film would have been a lot harder.

GM: Your fashion has been featured in Maxim Magazine. Your house in Paris was featured in In Style. You were the 2006 face of the John Varvados ad campaign. Now you're being interviewed for Gaydar Magazine. How gay are you?

CC: I feel like you're gay or you're not regardless of what publications you happen to be in. I think that opens the door to a scary ideology that...for example if you're a certain ethnicity you must like certain foods and if you're gay you must be good at certain things. I have friends that are gay that are not good at anything stereotypical...

GM: Some people feel that gay and straight are labels that man has created that without them people might be more comfortable playing outside those boxes.

CC: It seems to me that you run into more people who say they are gay or not gay versus well I just kinds do whatever when I'm in the mood or I was married but now I'm in love with a guy. I don't know if that's from the pressure to choose or if it's just the way people really are.

GM: Looks like our time is up. Chris much luck with the touring and congratulations on the CD. Thanks for spending some time with the gays.

CC: Thank you.



Gaydar Magazine: For those of us whom *All Through the Night* is our introduction to Suzanne Brockmann, please provide some background for Jules & Robin. How did they meet? What are their attractions to each other? Are their families supportive? Do they wear boxers or briefs?

Suz: Out and proud action hero Jules Cassidy and Hollywood heartthrob Robin Chadwick meet (and become entangled!) in *Hot Target*, first published in January 2005.

Jules has been major player -- and a hugely popular character -- in my Troubleshooters series of mainstream romantic suspense books for years. I brought him in as a kickass, highly-skilled FBI agent who just happened to be gay, in 2001's *The Defiant Hero* -- the second book in the series. It didn't take long before my readers (predominantly straight women) were ready for Jules to have a little romantic action of his own. He'd had his heart broken in the past by a man who was an actor, so Robin (who was also so deeply in his closet, he himself couldn't see the door) was exactly "Mr. Wrong." But love is never logical or reasonable, don't you agree? And we writers love creating conflict for our characters. So in *Hot Target*, Robin blasted into Jules's life. In this book, Jules is sent to Los Angeles to investigate death threats being made against Robin's sister, Jane, a Hollywood writer/producer who is making a biopic that outs a legendary WWII hero. Sparks fly between the

two men from the moment they meet, despite the fact that at the start of the book, Robin is still insisting he's not gay. As he takes on the role of the gay war hero, and as his friendship with Jules becomes something more intense, Robin makes some rather important discoveries about himself.

However, Robin's not ready to be out and open about who he is, and *Hot Target* ends with Jules walking away.

But the two characters come face to face again in last summer's release, *Force of Nature*, and when they do... Meltdown. Robin ends up choosing Jules despite his fear of losing his career, and they win their happily-ever-after.

In *All Through the Night*, the two men have moved to Boston, where Robin is part of a highly acclaimed cable TV series (see, gay actors can find work after coming out!), and where they can be legally married. They plan a quite, intimate wedding with a few close friends, but of course, hijinx ensue.

As for their attraction to each other? It's physical, of course, but it's also much more. They connect in so many different ways. Jules is a take-charge kind of guy who came out as a teenager and had fully supportive parents. He's self-confident and a natural leader, but he does have something of a jealous streak when it comes to matters of the heart. Robin had a really crappy childhood and still bears those scars, wanting desperately to be loved unconditionally. He finds Jules's possessiveness attractive -- they're a very good

fit.

Boxers or briefs, huh? Robin's an actor, I'm pretty sure he changes his underwear choices with the different characters he plays. As for Jules -- there's a scene early on in *All Through the Night*, in which he goes for option three -- commando.

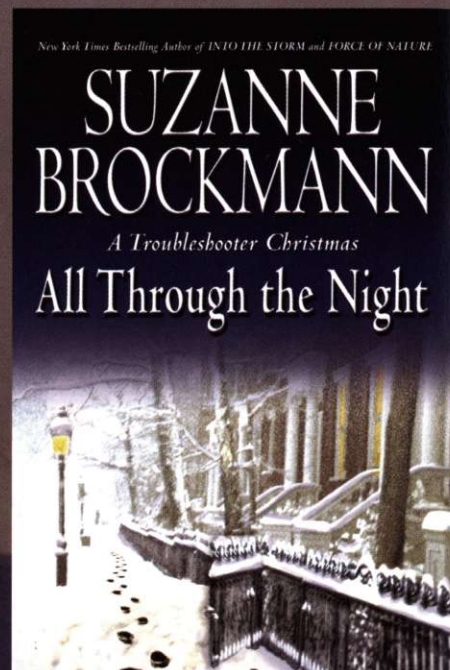
GM: How did you decide on a gay protagonist? Do you have gay friends or family members?

Suz: My son, Jason, is gay. My gaydar kicked in back when he was only three years old, and I worked hard throughout his childhood to make sure that he always felt safe enough to be exactly the person he was born to be. (And what an amazing, special, kind, talented young man he is! He turns 22 years old this December!) He came out when he was fifteen.

I created Jules Cassidy because I wanted my books to include an out gay man who'd spent exactly zero minutes in the closet, a well-adjusted person who was not just okay with himself, but who truly liked who he was. And I also was determined that Jules be truly gay -- not just gay-ish. So often in mainstream pop culture, the gay character is asexual. He comes in and redecorates the room, makes everyone laugh with his wit. The whole he-has-sex-and-falls-in-love-with-other-men thing is kinda swept under the rug.

But I wanted to make Jules real. And when I did, readers responded extremely enthusiastically.

GM: Have you received any negative



Talk about it.

feedback from the more conservative of your readers? Do you think about that when writing the outline for a book such as All Through the Night?

Suz: Yeah. Screw 'em.

And okay, with that said, I'm hugely aware that I'm not preaching to the choir. A large number of my readers live in places that I don't consider to be gay-friendly. In fact, I would consider them to be gay-unfriendly, and I would probably encourage my son to "het up" if he were going there. Which sucks. "Sweetie, do me a favor today and hide who you are, okay, so you don't end up dead? Thanks..." Mothers should never have to say that to their children.

But okay. Those places exist, and you know what? Quite a few of my readers live there.

So, yes. I tread lightly. I took my time introducing Jules to my readers -- establishing that he was worthy of finding love. And remember, I write romance novels, so the big prize may be dripping with steamy sex, but it's ultimately summed up by that timeless phrase "and they lived happily ever after." And readers started clamoring for Jules to find his Mr. Right.

Romance novels tend to be pretty explicit when it comes to sex scenes, so when it came time in Hot Target and Force of Nature and All Through the Night to bring sex into the picture, I again approached it all very carefully. Because it was far more important to me to bring along (and educate!) mainstream readers who have never really given much thought to what it means to be gay, I pushed the Jules/Robin sex scenes only as far as I thought I could, without losing those readers.

And yet I still got/get email from conservative readers, "I am not homophobic!--" they usually all start this way, which sets the red alert buzzing "--but I will never read your books again, blah, blah, blah, hate, hate, hate..." I entertain myself by making flushing noises as I hit "delete."

But you know, for every negative email I get, I get a hundred from readers who love Jules and Robin. I also get quite a few emails from readers who wish I'd been more explicit with their love scenes!

Bottom line? I know I can't please all of the people all of the time. So I write what I love to write. And Jules has long been one of my favorite characters, so...

GM: What motivates you and your work? Who are your literary heroes?

Suz: I'm a huge Joss Whedon fan. He's my God of Writing. (He wrote Buffy and Angel and Firefly.) He's incredible -- his characters are so consistent and true. Aaron Sorkin's another of my heroes. West Wing. Amazing stuff.

I love TV, but I'm enormously picky about what I watch. Burn Notice is intriguing, if you haven't seen it. I really love watching TV on DVD -- what a great format. That was how I first watched Buffy -- season one in practically one sitting.

GM: What does it mean to you to be a New York Times best selling author? Can you demand the big bucks for future books?

Do you make your husband refer to you as the New York Times Best selling author? Ex: "Good morning, New York Times best selling author. Would you like your eggs scrambled or over easy?" or "New York Times best selling author, would you pass me the remote?"

Suz: LOL! You know, my last seven books have all hit the Times list. It's crazy. You walk into a bookstore -- one of those big chain stores -- and you look at all the different books for sale, and you think, "Shit. I'm number three in hardcover fiction. How did that happen?!"

And then you go home, where one of the puppies has peed on the kitchen floor, so you clean it up. Life goes on. It's just a little surreal at times. (We just got two new miniature Schnauzer puppies -- Little Joe and CK Dexter-Haven. They think the Times list is most fun when they tear it into shreds. They're probably right.)

GM: Gay marriage is a hot button topic and is at the core of this book. I don't know many people who are in the gray on the subject. One recent survey suggests that 60% of young Americans support gay marriage. When will we see equal marriage rights for gay people in the United States?

Suz: It's coming. Either that, or it's time to leave. I've heard New Zealand is nice...

Seriously, I've worked for years, supporting MassEquality and Freedom to Marry and many other groups who helped win equal marriage rights in Massachusetts. It's all about making it personal, you know. About being out -- not just my son being out, but me and my husband being out as straight allies. I can't tell you how many letters and emails I've written to my legislators that start, "My name is Suzanne Brockmann and I'm a Massachusetts resident. I'm also the mother of a wonderful gay son..."

But rewind a bit to January 2007. After years and years of hard work, we foolishly thought the battle was won and same sex marriage rights were secure in Massachusetts. We literally opened the champagne bottle and celebrated our victory, except not so fast there, you.

Then-Governor Mitt Romney poked and prodded and made this worn-out, "been there done that" issue of equal marriage rights roar back to life. (Funny, since in the past he's openly supported gay rights... Gee, I wonder if it had something to do with him running for president in 08...)

Long story short, I got really, really pissed. And I decided instead of signing on for more phone banking or canvassing (which I really suck at doing), I'd take advantage of my strengths, and write a book -- a "holiday novella," set in Boston, featuring the same-sex marriage between two of my most popular characters -- and I'd give all of my earnings from that book to MassEquality.

My publisher loved the idea of the holiday-themed story and I received an advance that I was able to pass along immediately, to MassEquality's Educational

Fund.

The story has a happy ending -- in June we won this latest round of the battle, and same sex marriage rights are secure in Massachusetts until at least 2012.

To date, I've donated over a quarter of a million dollars to MassEquality, from the advance and audiobook subrights for All Through the Night. But I'll also be sending them any and all royalty payments I receive -- into perpetuity. Hopefully, it'll be a gift that keeps on giving as this book is reprinted through the years.

And I'm really looking forward to the day (hopefully soon) that the gang at MassEquality calls me up and says, "Hey, can you send the next royalty check to us at our New York office? We've got work to do in the Tri-State area!"

GM: Who has your vote in 2008?

Suz: I loves me my sweet little Dennis Kucinich, but.... And for a while there I was considering a move to South Carolina so I could vote for Stephen Colbert. And okay, yes, I still have a flicker of hope that Al Gore will enter the race. (Please, Al! Please?) But realistically? I just read a really awesome speech given by John Edwards about the corruption of our current system, so I think he's gonna be my man. One thing I don't want to vote for in 2008 is our next dictator. I don't like our current one very much. As a country, we've got to get the executive branch back in line. We must. (Or see comment above re: New Zealand.)

You know, I've been politically active for years. I actually campaigned up in New Hampshire, before the 2004 primary, for Wes Clark. I still think he's a terrific VP candidate for 2008. I think it's important to have someone in the executive office who has served in the military, and retired General Clark brings a lot of experience and wisdom with him.

GM: Has there been any talk of adapting the book(s) for the screen?

Suz: Every now and then there's interest but nothing has panned out. Writers lose all creative control when selling screen rights of their books, and I'm kind of a control freak, so I'd need more incentive than anyone has ever offered. With that said, I think All Through the Night would make a terrific holiday TV movie. We've pitched the idea a few places, and we'll see what happens.

Suz: One last comment! I mentioned earlier that All Through the Night has an audiobook edition. It's produced by Brilliance Audio, and it's really wonderful. The book is read by award-winning out singer/songwriter Michael Holland, and he really does a terrific job bring Jules and Robin (and everyone else!) to life. All of my royalties from the audiobook will also go to MassEquality.

Oh, and -- okay I lied. This is my last comment. Your readers can find out more about MassEquality by going to www.MassEquality.org and more about me at www.SuzanneBrockmann.com, and more about the mega-talented Michael Holland's current NYC cabaret show at www.blendomatic.net

Thank you so much!

Small Steps, Tiny Revolutions

Interview with Steven Sametz by Stephen Libby

Professor of Music & Director, Lehigh Choral Arts



Gaydar Magazine: Give a brief synopsis of Small Steps/Tiny Revolutions.

Steven Sametz: It's the story of a little boy who always wanted to "dance like the wind." His father is adamantly against this. The core of the story is the little boy's escape into a fantasy land where he dances with fantastical shapes, learning a language of their movement. The father, when he discovers his missing son, must learn to dance in order to follow his son and bring him back. The son's aspirations, the father's learning to love his son, and their reconciliation are the driving forces of the ballet.

GM: What is your role and why did you choose to get involved?

SS: Deborah Sacarakis, one of the Valley's leading lights in the arts (she is the recipient of the Valley Arts Award) asked me if I'd be interested in setting a libretto she had written. She is also the commissioner of the Pascal Rioult Dance Company, which will be dancing the premiere at Lehigh.

GM: What do you hope people will take from the performance?

SS: It's designed for children, but, like many children's stories, is a parable for adults as well. The scene designs and movements were inspired by Deborah's outreach program to local elementary schools, and local children are also cast in the Shapeland Ballet (the land the boy escapes to in his fantasy), so it's wonderful for children. But on a larger scale, there are lessons of acceptance that speak to adults.

GM: How have you seen the acceptance of gay people change through your years in the Lehigh Valley?

SS: It's a much more open community than when I arrived here.

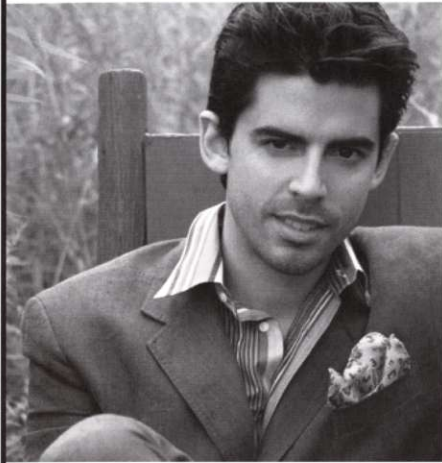
GM: What projects would you like to bring to a Lehigh Valley audience?

SS: I've been stretching the limits of our performances here for years (staged version of the Bach St. Matthew Passion; danced version of Debussy's "Le Martyre de St. Sebastien") and I've always found Lehigh to be a very supportive environment for new projects. We did a Valentine's concert in support of AIDS workers a number of years ago, and the students were incredibly great to work with on this. We'll just keep bringing the highest quality, most stimulating performances we can to the Valley and hope that your readers will join us in the next adventure.

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A close-up photograph of Annie Lennox lying down, resting her head on a white pillow. She is wearing a dark purple top and a large, multi-strand necklace made of clear crystals. She has blonde hair and is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

Annie Lennox

Intro by Stephen Libby
Photo courtesy of FlyLife Inc.

Who doesn't love Annie Lennox? The Eurythmics was the defining duo of the 1980's. Sweet Dreams, Here Comes the Rain, Missionary Man, Would I Lie to You and more had my friends and I packing the dance floors, buying the vinyl(!) and sitting vigil in front of MTV awaiting their next video. These memories make me wanna dance right now. Of course Annie and Dave Stewart split and Ms Lennox has had an illustrious solo career ever since. Her haunting voice and spare rhythms have graced such classics as Why, Walking on Broken Glass, Little Bird, Train in Vain, No More I Love You's and so many others I dare not attempt to mention them all as to forget someone's favorite. Whatever your favorite you are sure to find something to love on Songs of Mass Destruction. Her agent sent the following interview for the readers of GM. Enjoy! (SL)

Ready for a roller-coaster ride? That's what Annie Lennox likens her music to, and her new solo disc, *Songs of Mass Destruction*, is certainly a dramatic journey of extreme emotions—as is this interview with the surprisingly sassy songstress. But when discussing her work, she's a serious artiste: "Each track has a different feel," Annie says of the album that veers from atmospheric songs of loss to anthemic calls for hope. She's also serious about her passionate for human rights—her disc's title references the Iraq war—and when we caught up with Annie, she had just performed in London for Peace One Day, a movement to make September 21 the day of world peace. "But it doesn't have to be about putting weapons down," she says. "You can make friends with someone you haven't spoken with—whatever it means to you." What? Make peace with our ex-boyfriends? Now that really would change the world.

After hearing the haunting debut single "Dark Road" and reading about the disc's serious subject matter, listeners might not be prepared for the upbeat, anthemic sound on many tracks. How do you meld the two?

Annie Lennox: Seamlessly, dear! The music comes intuitively. I don't try to figure it out. And as human beings, we are paradoxical, the two things co-exist: darkness and light, positive and negative. You can't get one without the other. I've always been a person with a dark side, but I do try to be positive.

Yet another sample of "Sweet Dreams" has surfaced in a dance track, this time in Britney Spears's "Everybody." You've covered other artist's songs, but how do you feel about your work being covered and sampled?

Well, most of the time I don't mind, but frankly, I think a lot of it's pretty lame.

Bloggers followed the recent "news" about your teenage daughter Lola's party being overrun with hooligans who trashed your home. How did everything turn out? Is Lola sooo grounded until she's 50?

The whole thing was grossly exaggerated and reinvented. The party wasn't even held at my house to begin with. There was no bill of damage to pay, because there was no damage done. The paper got hold of a story and they spun it out, basically. Sorry to disappoint. But that's the boring old truth. I'm not going to recap on it because it's nobody's business. What kind of adjectives could I use to describe it? Pathetic, ridiculous, invasive, laughable, prurient, pointless. That'll do.

As a mother, do you see your daughters going through the same things you went through, or do you think being young today is a totally different experience?

Young people are going through all the things that young people have always gone through. But

the times are always changin'. It's a completely different planet than mine 40 years ago. Cell phones, Internet, media, fashion, information, consumerism, celebrity, affluence, air travel, etc. etc. Besides, we tend to forget that the world is split in two: those that have, and those that don't. In many places children don't even make their fifth birthday and life expectancy is around 38 years. It's a little sobering when you consider the prevalent cultural obsession with bullshit celebrity.

The new album and the video for "Dark Road" explore that political and economic rift in today's world. On the new album cover, you symbolize a priestess rising from the destruction?

I had the imagery established in my mind well before we went to the studio. I wanted to stand in front of an apocalyptic sky because every day I'm seeing images of destruction. Some bombing here, some building that has been blitzed, some body parts lying around. When I say "Songs of Mass Destruction," it isn't only in Iraq. The globe itself is almost at a tipping point. Now is a time to question political leaders and find ways to save the planet.

The last time HX spoke with you was spring 2003, and you had an exhibit in town of your own photography. How hands-on were you in the imagery of the new album and video?

I'm totally involved with every aspect of what ends up as a final "package." I was even at the paint shop figuring out the exact red for the painted backdrop.

In spring 2003, you were also preparing for a big show at The Apollo Theater in New York. What do you remember about that night?

Music is a transcendent language. It reaches out beyond color and culture definitions to touch our human hearts and minds. I felt so well-received at the Apollo. Alicia Keys and Bette Midler both came backstage to give me a hug. There's nothing like a New York crowd that loves you!

You amassed an entire choir of world-famous divas to help out on "Sing." In fact, I get a strong feminist vibe on the disc. Is that a fair assessment? Have you had it with men?

To me, the word feminism means social, political and personal empowerment. Despite the fact that Western women seem to have become so blasé about the subject, there are still millions of women across the globe who are in desperate need of it. Empowerment is not a given. Women struggled and fought before us to secure the vote and equal rights. We owe them some acknowledgement for what we've received because of their efforts. As for the men—I still haven't figured it out. Enough said.

You just launched a new web site. Do you use the Internet to connect to your fans

and other people? Do YOU actually blog on your MySpace page and annielennox.com?

Yes, I do actually. No one seems to believe it, but I think it adds a brilliant new dimension to communicating with people directly, without any middle man, so to speak. And due to freedom of speech, I can say exactly what I want. I found out that a small minority of people seem to get something out of highjacking forums. Very funny/ha ha and weird at the same time. They can get very bitchy and provocative, and the whole thing can get immensely heated up like a tinder box.

I'm all about tolerance, personally, but there can be a few freakish viewpoints that just need to be put back in the box. By and large, I have to say that the majority of the people are incredibly sweet, intelligent, informed, sane. And I love getting that kind of feedback.

I think that these kinds of networks have so much potential for positive social and political—with a small "p"—evolution. That's what I'm about essentially.

Back to the album: Some tracks give me the impression of someone who has been pushed too far for the last time, someone on an extreme edge. Would it be a mistake to assume you're writing from personal experiences?

Darlin', I've been through pretty much everything. Let me put it to you like that. But having said that, I have to say that the songs are non-specific ... just like STDs.

STDs?! I'm sure I wouldn't know anything about that, but speaking of which—God, this is a terrible segue—the gays have always loved you. Can you elaborate on that relationship?

Gay men relate to me because they want to be me, stupid! Just kiddin'! I wish that people wouldn't have to make their sexual orientation the entire center of their existence. I don't think too much about which side of the fence people are on. I just know whether I feel connected to them. A lot of the time, I still feel pretty alienated from the herd. I keep myself to myself mostly.

One last subject: dance mixes. You music has always been a staple on the dance floor. And you have remixes already slated for the single "Sing." You said you collaborate with the art directors. Do you also work with the DJs and producers on the remixes?

I'm going to be brutally honest here. I find a lot of it totally vacuous. People say you've got to have taken a lot of drugs before you "get it." I'm pretty sure that you have to take a lot of drugs. What kind of drugs are you gay guys taking? Wait! Don't answer that! Please don't!

For more info visit www.annielennox.com.

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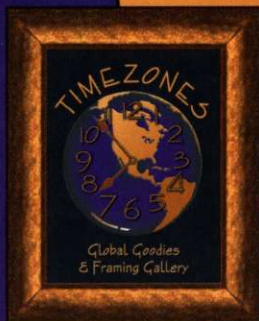
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Jim Bloom

Interview by Randi Olsen Pavlick

Look into the eyes of Jim Bloom's self portrait and you'll see the musty bar rooms he lived in, making drawings for currency. Portraits of bar patrons and vultures from the street rendered on bar checks and cotton coasters were traded for drinks and favors. Bloom's diaristic body of work offers the viewer a long uncomfortable wait in an empty room filled with unforgettable images of his earth-born purgatory. Working compulsively on any flat surface at hand, Bloom tells his story whether you are interested or not. He has no choice - he makes paintings to justify staying alive.

And there is a particular eloquence to work produced this way - a naïve quality of rendering and boldness of gesture that pays no mind to formal principles of art. And who cares? This work isn't about composition. It's about rejection, illness, violence, sex, drug addiction, homelessness, and other topics of the human condition that we might prefer to turn our eyes away from. But you won't, because Bloom gnaws on this fodder, this raw edged material that is his life, and offers it up on cardboard and newspaper like a mirror for anyone to view.

A native of Allentown now based in Philadelphia, Jim recalls his early adult years, when rejected by his family and living on the margins and feigned goodwill of patrons in his favorite watering holes. So as not to appear vagrant he drew incessantly, trading drawings for drinks and favors. He describes being treated "like a king" in the musty days of early grandeur, that "life was great". But it would soon disintegrate into a smothering fog of drugs, sexual favors and the search for a place to sleep.

Careful not to romanticize, Jim says much of his work has been produced in a state of complete rage. He describes the work produced between 2002 and 2005 as a "long suicide note", and his pain and anguish are evident in the raw gesture of the drawn line and brushwork. The disproportionate figures, cardboard collage and raw material supports bring his history to life so poignantly, so powerfully that you find you can't look away. Garish colors describe violence in the park; maternal relationships are set off balance by the too large heads atop diminutive bodies; text inserted into the body of the paintings set the content further askew. Bloom makes no excuses for himself or his subjects. They are not pretty, and they work themselves into you like a bad dream you just can't shake off.

He is still angry when he paints, but he continues to write his suicide note in images a language at once disturbing and beautiful. With gallery representation now provided by the Outsider Folk Art Gallery in Reading, PA, making paintings is made easier for Bloom. Working on larger format canvasses, Jim brings a cleaner, more refined technical approach to his stirring emotional content. New experiences are displacing the old ones; the work reflects Jim's increased stamina and stability in its scale and less aggressive execution. He works less automatically now, preferring to set up the painting in advance which challenges him and keeps him fully engaged and committed to his work.

Come March of 2008, you can bear witness to a portion of Bloom's evolving testament to a life resting on the underbelly of our culture. The Gallery at Home and Planet, located on Bethlehem's Southside at 25 East Third St., will host a carefully selected group of Jim Bloom's work with an opening reception First Friday, March 7, from 7 - 10 pm. The painter Mark Rothko once said that "a painting lives by relationship." Bloom invites you into his dark places, hoping you will risk relationship with him there, bringing a new kind of life to his work.





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Gaydar Magazine: Hey Joan. Tell us about PLAY Underwear.

Joan Wenzel: The Play brand was started by Intimo in New York City about 2 years ago. It came about since we couldn't find much of anything Playful (excuse the pun) and exciting in underwear... so we decided to up the energy level a couple notches. We wanted a line that doesn't have any particular customer in mind, it's more about the youthful attitude. The signature men's model is a hybrid between a brief and a trunk that functions to protect against irritation caused by the creases in denim jeans. Our iBoxer is a slim cut cotton spandex knit boxer that has a discreet pocket designed to hold a MP3 player or cell phone. This is a hit amongst our college student fans who like to hang around their dorms in their underwear listening to their iPods and carrying their cell phones.

GM: How did Play come to be? And some high points since it began.

JW: Play came to be in response for the need for a fun, denim friendly underwear brand that was very sexy, and also had a function. The brand has always been colorful and playful, and bounces off nicely from shades of denim. The high point of the brand is it's MP3 player pocket and it's exceptional fit. We are the originators of the MP3 pocket for underwear and hold the only patent for this concept. We have built a line and message about being technologically relevant and are expanding way beyond it.

GM: Why do you think gay boys will enjoy PLAY?

JW: Gay boys will enjoy Play underwear firstly because of its exceptional fit. It enhances their physique and makes a man look very sexy. The fabrics are soft and comfortable, quality made and built to last. The fun, bright colors also get you noticed in a crowd so to speak. The colors and fit definitely attract attention.

GM: What makes it the perfect gift for that someone special?

JW: If the ipod is the perfect MP3 gift, Play is the perfect underwear gift. Our iBoxer is the perfect gift to anyone with an MP3 player, which is everyone including your Dad. The fit is superb, the fabrics are extremely soft and the colors and patterns are eye catching. Who wouldn't want a place to park your MP3 player or cell phone when you are kicking around the house



Contributed photo

relaxing in your skivvies?

GM: Where Play is going and where people can order them?

JW: Play has expanded into loungewear, and is offering all the important trends, such as eco-friendly fabrics and packaging, which is a major push for us. We have also expanded into the ladies underwear and loungewear market. As for where the fashion part of the line is headed, well, you will have to visit the stores and websites that carry our products as that is top secret information!!! Play can be found through retail and specialty stores such as Fresh Pair (freshpair.com), Mark Shale (Woodridge and Chicago), Injeanous (San Francisco), International Male.com, Citizen Body (San Francisco), Universal Gear - (Washington, New York, Chicago, Atlanta), Under Sport Inc (Los Angeles), American Rag (San Francisco) Global 61 (Hollywood), Malestrom online.com, Martain & Wall (San Diego), TY'z Men's Wear (Palm Springs), and select Dillard's Stores. For more information on a retailer near you visit www.playunderwear.com.

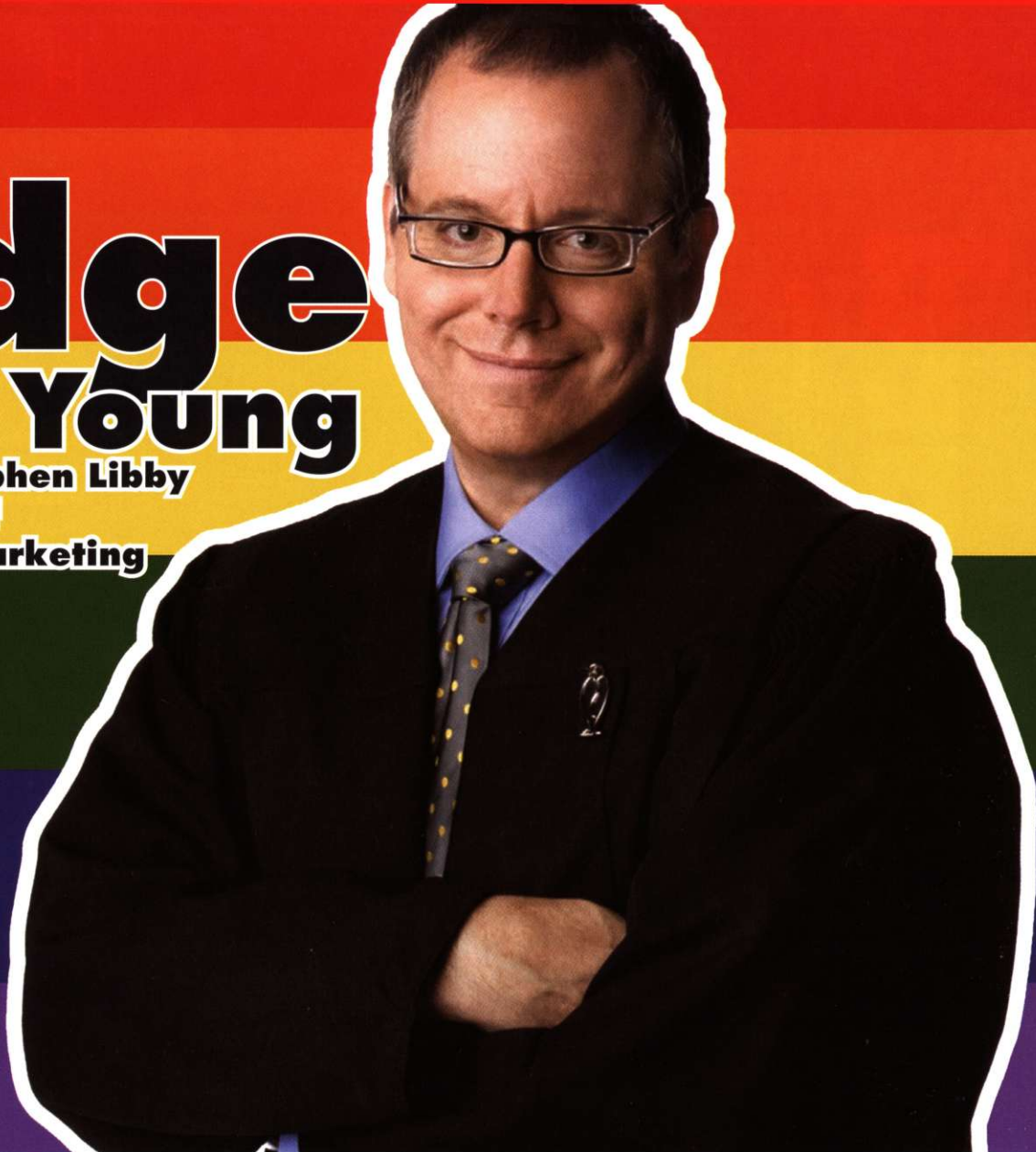
GM: How long have you been with PLAY and your connection to the gay community?

JW: I have been with Play for 2 years now. My connection the gay community is very strong. My 2 best friends of 30 years are gay men. I have lost someone very, very dear to me to AIDS, and helped him through it to the end. I have marched on the UN to push for AIDS funding and have volunteered for Roosevelt Hospital by baking for their AIDS patients. I have raised money and walked in AIDS walkathons. I have marched in the Gay Pride parade in memory and for loved ones that I have lost who cannot march for themselves. My dream is to someday volunteer for God's Love We Deliver—a meals on wheels program for homebound people living with AIDS. I work in the garment center in New York City designing men's underwear...need I say more?

GM: Not at all. We love you and PLAY underwear. And thanks for all your work with the AIDS programs. You are an inspiration.

Judge Dave Young

Interview by Stephen Libby
Photo courtesy of
Beck Media & Marketing



Gaydar Magazine: What makes David Young stand out among the throngs of other TV judges?

Judge David Young: I really care about the litigants. The show is not all about yelling and screaming. It's more about repairing broken families and friendships... and done with a snap, of course.

GM: Of course! How did this TV gig come about?

JDY: Sony Pictures Television heard about me from a highly publicized case I presided over involving two America West Airline pilots who were charged with flying an airplane while intoxicated. They were also impressed that I looked so much like Brad Pitt.

GM: The resemblance is uncanny. How often do people ask to see your magic gavel? And what is your reply?

JDY: Sorry guys, my partner Scott is the only person allowed to touch the magic gavel, but anybody can see it online at www.judgedavidyoung.com.

judgedavidyoung.com.

GM: On a scale of gayness from 1 to 10 (1 being Reichen Lehmkuhl, 5 being T. R. Knight and 10 being Carson Kressley) where would place yourself?

JDY: In real life, I am about a 4 but everything looks a little more festive on TV.

GM: With the exception of Bill O'Reilly. Is it true judges wear nothing under their robes?

JDY: Usually Hugo Boss, Gucci, Prada, Ferragamo...

GM: What was the strangest case you presided over?

JDY: The woman who claimed her neighbor stole her bird. That woman, bless her heart, had major issues. Let's just say, in the nicest terms possible, that the elevator never left the lobby.

GM: Speaking of... Let's say Britney is out partying with Paris and Lindsay (all names are changed to protect the

innocent). Britney is a passenger in the car and flashes her naughty bits to the paparazzi. Paris is driving intoxicated without a license. And Lindsay is caught carrying "someone else's" cocaine. They are brought before you. What is the outcome?

JDY: All three would be in long term residential treatment programs, and not ones of their choosing. They all need a sense of the real world and each should be treated like everyone else. Britney would also undergo a complete psychological work-up and be put under strict probation with a parenting course.

GM: Now how can we get them on the show? What is the message you hope to convey with your show?

JDY: Each case has a theme-- a theme that I hope the litigants and the viewers will learn from. Life is a learning process.

GM: Amen, your honor.

Johnny Hazzard

Interview By Stephen Libby
Photos courtesy of Channel 1 Releasing

He's one of the hottest adult performers around. A few years ago, before the Chi Chi LaRue films, I saw him in an adult magazine and remember thinking how hot he was. If I could only be so accurate with the lottery. Recently I got Johnny to weigh in on his career, Boston and...sewing?!

Gaydar Magazine: Hey Johnny. I want you to know I am the envy of most of my friends right now because I am talking with you.

Johnny Hazzard: (laughs)

GM: The first few questions are from a couple of those friends. Is Johnny Hazzard your birth name?

JH: It is not.

GM: I couldn't find your birth name on the internet so I assume it is not for public consumption.

JH: I just prefer to go by Johnny Hazzard.

GM: How did you meet Chi Chi LaRue and get involved with Rascal Video?

JH: Doug Jeffries (director of All Worlds) is an old friend of mine. I was a waiter in Boston. I wasn't really doing anything else. The morning after I watched a porn I woke up and thought I could probably do that. I told Doug what I wanted to do. Doug knew Chi Chi very well and passed on my picture and information. It just kind of landed in my lap.

GM: So to speak. How is Chi Chi to work for?

JH: Amazing. She's very considerate, thoughtful and professional.

GM: Aside from Chi Chi, who do you admire in the adult entertainment genre?

JH: Jenna Jamison, because she was smart enough to take control of it on her own. Instead of making money for everyone else she made money for herself. She's raking it in.

GM: Is that what you hope to do?

JH: I don't want to direct. I don't want to own my own production company. At some point I would like to use my name in a way that is not only creative but lucrative. They gay guys don't have a union. The female performers do. So their bottom line is being watched.

GM: And rewind then watched again. As unfair as it may be I think we all have preconceived notions of what people in certain professions are like. As an adult film performer I wouldn't think you'd have quotes on your website by Oscar Wilde and Dorothy Parker, two of my favorite quotables.

JH: When Boy Wonder and I were building the site I was throwing out these quotes and we decided to use them.

GM: When one is fantasizing about Johnny Hazzard I wonder if they know he is well read. What else do you think might surprise your fans?

JH: I love to sew.

GM: What kind of sewing?

JH: My current project is developing a clothing line.

GM: Wow! I thought you were going to say needlepoint. Have you considered being a contestant on Project Runway?

JH: Not really. The contestants on PR have more of a design history than I do at this point. I love to sew. I love to cook. All the things that go into making a good husband.

GM: Speaking of which. Do you have one?

JH: I do. He's not in the profession. He's recognizes the separation between the two. We've been together about a year.

GM: You mentioned Boston earlier. Is that where you were raised?

JH: No, I was born in Ohio. I moved to New England when I turned 21. My first stop was Nantucket. The job I moved there for kinda changed its presentation and the guy that brought me there turned out to be a real letch. I had some money saved and went to

Provincetown. When the season ended it was just a logical move to go to Boston. I fell in love with the people and it was my home for the next ten years. The rest of my family is still in Ohio.

GM: How does it feel being in the adult entertainment business at the age of 30?

JH: At the age of 22 and 23 you think by the time I'm 30 I'm going to have been here and have this. Sometimes life takes you on a different path. You try not to be upset by it, but expectations are hard to shake.

GM: Is there much money to be made in the industry?

JH: The only money to be made in the gay part of the industry is to have your own website. Then work as much as possible. Without disclosing the amount I make as much as a gay male performer can make. I used to get paid per scene but recently made it to salary which is great. No one gets royalties.

GM: That's too bad, cuz I have..."a friend" who has rented Bolt over 50 times. You coulda made a killing. Good flick!! I mean, he says it's a good flick. We better stop there before I get myself, I mean my friend, into anymore trouble. Love ya, Johnny!



Now Is A GREAT Time To Buy A Home

By Glen Paisley & Matthew Carl

If you're ready to buy a home and can afford it, now is a great time to buy. Mortgage interest rates remain very low. In many areas, buyers have a lot of inventory from which to choose and long-term homeownership continues to be one of the best ways for the typical American to build wealth.

Don't let all of the negative media attention about the "mortgage meltdown" keep you from pursuing your homeownership dream. Mortgage industry woes are primarily limited to subprime loans and other types of creative and comparatively risky financing products. While the mortgage industry stalled briefly to reconsider its more exotic loans, there is plenty of conventional financing available for qualified homebuyers. Interest rates remain at historically low levels – still less than 7% for the typical, 30-year fixed-rate mortgage.

Indeed, the market has changed. It's gone from a frenzied seller's market to calmer buyer's market. In fact, buyers haven't seen a market this strong in years. When the national median home price dropped for the first time on record, the decline made huge albeit misleading headlines. For starters, there is no such thing as a national real estate market. All real estate markets are

local and driven by local factors that include the local economy, housing supply and demand factors and other attributes like geography.

The slight decline followed years of unprecedented steep home price appreciation and the reality is that only a handful of markets experienced price declines. Corrections in markets that experienced exorbitant home price appreciation were expected and signal good news for buyers. According to 2007 third-quarter National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) statistics, the vast majority of the nation's metropolitan areas showed rising or stable home prices with most areas experiencing modest gains.

Right now there are many homes from which to choose and in most areas buyers don't have to deal with the harried and hurried competition of multiple bids. The changing market has also changed the inventory landscape to include fewer speculative sellers and a larger share of serious and motivated sellers.

Prospective homebuyers have some time to shop inventory and thoroughly compare home types and prices, amenities, neighborhoods, commutes and other important real estate-

related features. And buyers have stronger price negotiation power as sellers compete for their attention by offering concessions or other incentives.

While all real estate markets have ups and downs, Americans continue to consistently build wealth through homeownership.

According to the NAR:

*On average, the value of a home doubles every 10 years. During the past three decades, home values have increased an average of 6.6% per year.

*The average homeowner today has 36 times the wealth of the average renter. Homeowners are essentially paying themselves when they pay their mortgages and this means they're building equity. Homeowners also benefit from some real estate-related tax write-offs like mortgage interest.

*Sixty percent of the average homeowner's wealth is their home's equity. For homeowners who are in their homes for the long-term, home equity typically is their single largest source of wealth.

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Because every market is different, it's a good idea for potential homebuyers to contact a local real estate specialist to learn more about what's happening in his or her community and real estate market. The bottom line in real estate doesn't change – if you're ready to buy and can afford to make a long-term homeownership commitment, it's always a good time to buy! Glen Paisley & Matthew Carl can be reached at 610-504-4072 or 484-519-4424. Prudential Patt, White Real Estate is an independently owned and operated member of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc., a Prudential Financial company. Equal Housing Opportunity.

2007 Movie Reviews continued

Stahl, look for several best supporting Oscar nominations.

Gone Baby Gone – Besides Ben Affleck's thoughtful direction, there were two brilliant performances in this Boston crime thriller: Ben's brother Casey Affleck (a probable best actor nominee) as a private investigator with street smarts in his gumshoes, and Amy Ryan (a best supporting Oscar nominee shoe-in -- pun intended) as a single mom gone wild, and as intriguingly attractive s she is tragic.

Hairspray – If John Travolta doesn't get a best actor Oscar nomination as Edna Turnblad in the remake of John Waters' 1988 trash camp classic (filmed partly at Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom with Lehigh Valley extras), well there's no justice in Hollywood. You already knew that. On the 30th anniversary of "Saturday Night Fever," Travolta shows how a big-boned gal dances (and a nice bookend to his Batman strut with Uma Thurman in "Pulp Fiction"). Hilarious supporting work by Michelle Pfeiffer and Christopher Walken

and an all-star cast (Queen Latifah, James Marsden, Amanda Bynes, Brittany Snow, Zac Efton, Allison Janney, Jerry Stiller, and Waters himself).

Into The Wild – Sean Penn got the rights from the family and he got it right in this devastatingly real account of scholar-athlete Christopher McCandless, who goes north to Alaska for, for ... for what? Love of Thoreau? To test The Boy Scouts Handbook? Metaphysics? We'll never know. What we do know is "Wild" confirms Penn as one of our most gifted film-makers. Look for a best actor Oscar actor nomination for Emile Hirsch (as McCandless) and a best supporting actor Oscar nomination for Hal Holbrook, whose tears say it all. With good work by William Hurt, Catherine Keener, Vince Vaughn and Marcia Gay Harden.

No Country For Old Men – Writers-Directors Ethan and Joel Coen return to form with taut drugs and money crime thriller that doesn't end

as well as it begins. But along the way, there are remarkable performances: Josh Brolin as a dumb-as-a-fox lay about, Javier Bardem as a philosophy-spouting psychopath, and Tommy Lee Jones as a Texas Sheriff and dreamweaver about to put his guns in the ground. Along for the death ride down along the Rio Grande are Woody Harrelson, Kelly Macdonald and Tess Harper.

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street -- Another costume epic, but oh, what a costume, and oh, what an epic. The Stephen Sondheim stage musical comes to the big screen in all its blood- and song-drenched glory. The all-singing, all-dancing, all-malevolent Johnny Depp trades his swashbuckling Jack Sparrow of "Pirates of the Caribbean" for the slash-buckling Demon Barber of Fleet Street ("Bride of Frankenstein hair-do. Nice). Director Tim Burton re-teams with Depp, Helena Bonham Carter and a cast to die for: Alan Rickman, Timothy Spall, Sacha Baron Cohen (the boy can act).



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Rob

Peter

Bear Force 1

Interview By Stephen Libby
Photo courtesy of Project Publicity



Ian

Yuri

Gaydar Magazine: Hey Guys. Bears Rock! Tell us how Bear Force 1 came to be.

Ian: We stumbled upon each other doing some linedancing :-). Men, we were drunk. That's for sure. I and Peter met Yuri and Rob.

Peter: Well, It was a logical step for us all. We were boned to death with skinny, young boys and girls singing about love, when they know nothing of it! It's now time for the Cult of Bear!

Yuri: It was divine intervention above all.

Robert: We are very thankful for Perez Hilton. Perez for president!

GM: The members of the Village People were distinctly and purposely different characters with different identities based on gay stereotypes. Please introduce and describe yourselves one at a time.

Robert: My great grandmother, Catherine Hayes, was once a famous Belfast Opera singer. Although my choice of genre is in many ways different, I definitely inherited my great-grandmother's talent and love of performance.

Peter: After being on a path towards becoming a bishop I decided that living a slightly more 'earthy life' doesn't have to exclude spirituality.

Yuri: I was a K1 fighter but after a second broken jaw I decided to end that career. These days I still kicks ass, but in a whole different way.

Ian: When my mother dropped the iron at my toes at the age of 4, I discovered I had quite a high voice.

GM: Are you guys couples like ABBA? If not what are your relationship status' (stati?) and what turns you on?

Robert: Unfortunately, we are all just good friends, but who knows what might happen when we go on tour!

Yuri: Two of us are single. Guess who?!

GM: I'll leave that question for our readers. What myths or misconceptions about bears would you like to use this space to dispel?

Robert: Bear Culture has always been totally

accepting of all colours, shapes and sizes. Hairy or not, big or small, 20 or 60, Bearforce1 is an all-inclusive mix of fun, sweat and dancing. We hope to bring a positive message to everyone that, regardless of appearance or preferences, we are all here to have the best damn time we can. Be proud of who you are!

Ian: It's Bear Culture! It breeds tolerance for everyone. Please leave your attitude at the door of Club Bear!

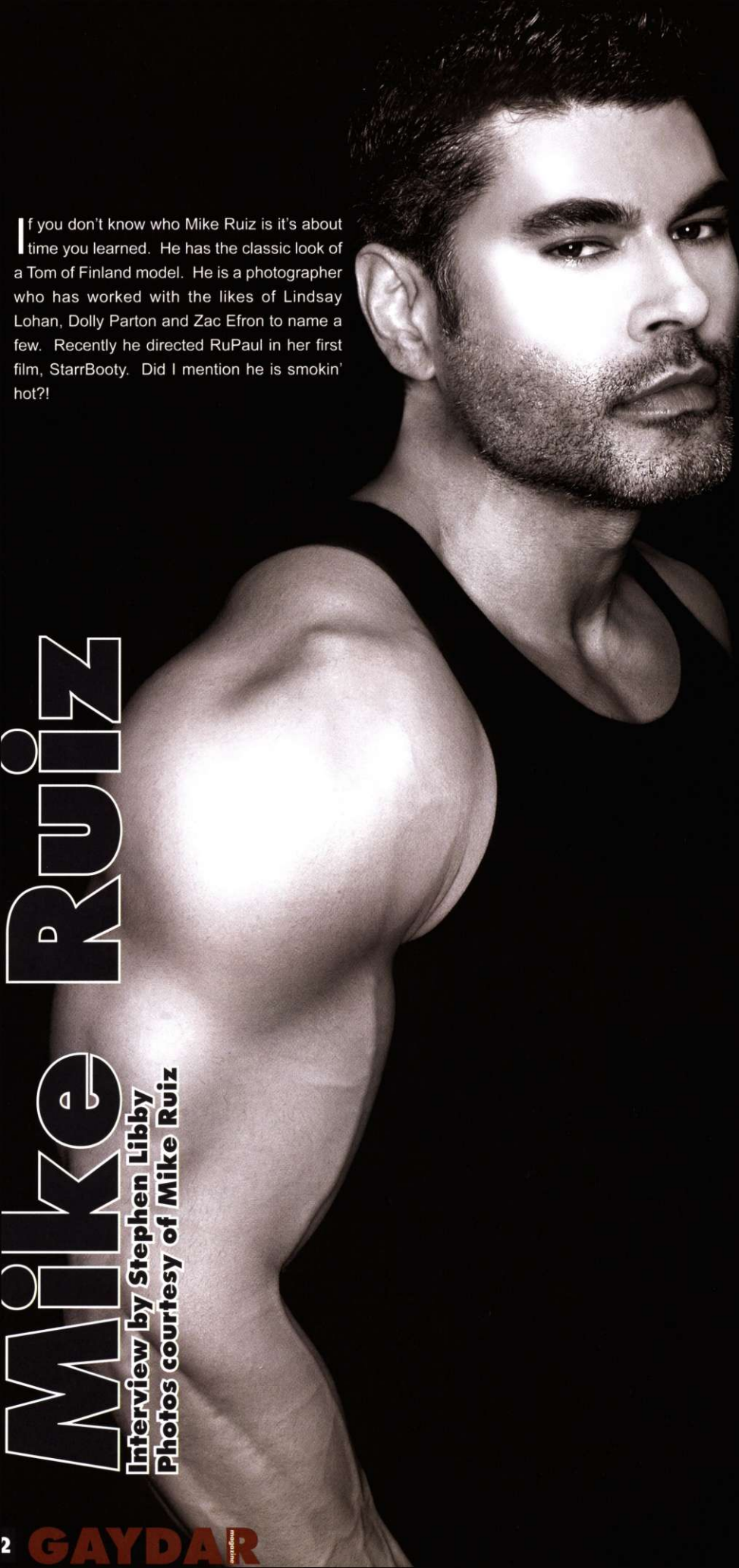
GM: Amen, brother bear! What's been the most exciting thing to happen to Bear Force 1 to this point?

Robert: All the love and energy from people all over the world. And men, we like to perform!

Yuri: Besides we all have had complete strangers asking us for marriage..

GM: We send you guys much love and wish you every success with Bear Force 1. You guys are awesome!

BF1: Thank you!! May the Bear Force be with you!



Mike Ruiz

Mike

Interview by Stephen Libby
Photos courtesy of Mike Ruiz

If you don't know who Mike Ruiz is it's about time you learned. He has the classic look of a Tom of Finland model. He is a photographer who has worked with the likes of Lindsay Lohan, Dolly Parton and Zac Efron to name a few. Recently he directed RuPaul in her first film, *StarrBooty*. Did I mention he is smokin' hot?!

Gaydar Magazine: After seeing these pix of you, my first question is: Did you leave any muscles for anyone else? Good God, you're built!

Mike Ruiz: There are always plenty of muscles to go around, I'm counting on it! They are my peacock feathers for attracting potential mates.

GM: Okay, so tell us all about Mike Ruiz. What makes you tick?

MR: Childhood abuse is how I got this tick. Seriously, my quest to fulfill all of my fantasies is what keeps me going.

GM: How long have you been a photographer? I've been shooting professionally for about 14 years and directing for 3. Who were your inspirations?

MR: I'm inspired by the masters like Newton, Avedon, Penn. I find that Pierre and Gilles have offered me much inspiration as well.

GM: Who has been your favorite personality to shoot?

MR: Of late my favorite subject has been Dita Von Teese. She is a work of art incarnate.

GM: Since he's hot right now, what was Zac Efron like to work with?

MR: He was really cool. I had no idea who he was at the time since I'm not a Disney Channel kind of guy but he was a real pro.

GM: When is he going to make all the gay boy's dreams come true and come out?

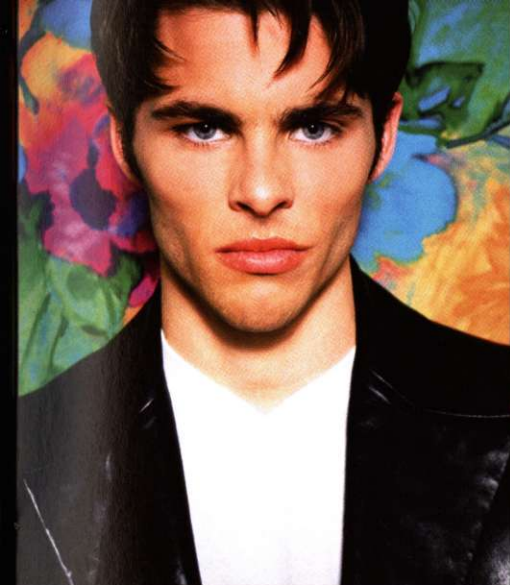
MR: I wish I could answer that but that's a question you'll have to ask him.

GM: Tell us about directing *StarrBooty* with RuPaul. Was this your first time directing?

MR: *Starrbooty* was more fun than a person should be allowed to have at work. It was my first feature as a director but I've done a bunch of music videos including one for RuPaul ("Looking Good, Feeling Gorgeous")

GM: I love when beautiful people who could rely on their looks to get by take it to another level and direct, become photographers, whatever. What's next for you?

MR: From here on out, I'm gonna coast on my looks. KIDDING! I actually have a couple



James Marsden



Christian Bale

of incredible things on the horizon that I can't really talk about. What I can talk about is the exclusive deal I just signed with Jenna Jameson and the publisher of a series of 28 books of erotica that she will be doing over the next 3 years.

GM: Tell us something no one knows about you.

MR: I have 11 toes.

GM: Since you photographed her, what's your take on Lindsay Lohan?

MR: Lindsay is no different than lots of people that I know except she has the press scrutinize everything that she does. She is a



troubled, misguided girl but then again, so am I!

GM: Amen, Brother! Are you in a relationship?

MR: I'm redefining what being in relationship means to me. I do have a very special person in my life.

GM: How does he deal with your success?

MR: He is the most incredibly supportive person I could ever hope to meet. He is genuinely happy for me when things are good and a shoulder to cry on when they get rough.

GM: What turns you on?

MR: Intelligence, kindness and a BIG C*CK!

GM: The best part about being Mike Ruiz is...

MR: I have to say, lately I've come to appreciate all of the wonderful things and people life has presented to me and I am so grateful every second of every day. The fact that I can do that is the best thing ever.

GM: What words of wisdom do you have for the young aspiring model/photographers out there?

MR: I always tell people to follow their dreams no matter what. There will always be naysayers but you can't listen. If you do what you love, success will always follow.

GM: Thanks for sharing your talent and thanks for doing the interview.



(L to R): Lil' Kim, Lindsay Lohan, Mark Wahlberg, RuPaul, Eva Longoria, Julian McMahon

Toyota FJ Cruiser

Photos by Stephen Libby

Review By Andy Cook

I have to hand it to Toyota. They truly are serious about offering (once again) some interesting, innovative, and exciting vehicles. Since Toyota stopped selling the Celica, MR2 and Supra, there wasn't too much in their showrooms to draw people in, unless they were looking for a reliable, functional car (e.g. a Corolla or a Camry). Not that these are bad cars, mind you, but for those of us who enjoy driving, the Sienna minivan just doesn't cut it.

The new FJ Cruiser is a move in the right direction. This new SUV has a very rugged exterior, with very retro styling cues which

harken back to the Toyota Land Cruisers from the 1960's. Those cues include big round headlights, a flat hood, and almost vertical side windows. With the new FJ, the styling will polarize you – you'll either 'get it' and like what you see, or wonder what Toyota was thinking! I'm on the side of 'I like what I see.' Here's another 'cool' feature: since the windshield is much wider than it is tall, the FJ has three windshield wipers, rather than the normal two. I haven't seen three wipers on a production car since the old MGBs in the early 1970s or the Jaguar XK E-type in the 1960s.

Those old Land Cruiser 4-wheelers were very primitive (lots of exposed metal in the interior, vinyl seats, no a/c) but this new model has none of that. All the FJs are powered by a 4.0-liter 24-valve 6-cylinder engine with 239 hp, and you have your choice between a 5-speed automatic (with gated shifter) or a 6-speed manual transmission. Note, this engine does require premium gasoline. There's also a transfer case where you can select between High (regular 4WD) and Low (stump pulling, deep snow, etc.). Surprisingly, for a car with big P265/70R17 off road tires on some



tro-Ho-Hum

attractive alloy wheels, the FJ is decently quiet inside. Even when accelerating to get on the highway, the engine noise is subdued.

While it may look like this FJ Cruiser is a two-door (intentionally), it uses rear-hinged passenger doors. Opening those rear doors from the outside is manageable, and you have to reach inside to grab a door-mounted lever. Each of the mini-doors also has built-in cup holders, which are convenient. Getting into the back takes some maneuvering, but once inside you'll be rewarded with more headroom than you expected. Even back

seat passengers over 6' tall will have a few inches between their heads and the roof.

The interior is quite interesting, and the 8-way adjustable driver and 4-way adjustable passenger seats are firm yet comfortable. The driver's seat has a ratcheting lever to raise or lower the seat. The steering wheel (with convenient lighted buttons for the audio system) also tilts to get you settled in. The rear seats fold 60/40 and the materials Toyota has used appear to be very durable and hard wearing.

"...the styling will polarize you – you'll either 'get it' and like what you see, or wonder what Toyota was thinking!..."

What I really like about the FJ is that the cabin is very stylish. The instruments are very legible, and the controls are easy to read, with white faceplates with large numerals against a dark field and the layout is very "Toyota" simple. The speedometer is directly ahead, and a smaller tachometer sits on the left, and a cluster of temperature, voltage and fuel gauges fits on the right. Our tester also had an optional set of gauges that sit on top of the dashboard and includes a compass, outside thermometer, and inclinometer. The color matched center stack is also well laid out, and the blue color (of the test vehicle – a very cool "Voodoo Blue" color) really enlivened what could otherwise be a dark interior. There is also a rear ultrasonic parking assist, which given the styling, is great when parking or backing up. Then again, there's always valet parking, right?

Accessing the storage area is done by either of two ways: you can hinge up the rear window, or the hatch opens up like one large door. This gives you convenient access, and the opening is towards the curb, a smart and safe move. Also in the back is an AC outlet, which could be useful to plug in normal household items.

This FJ Cruiser is directly aimed at competition like the Jeep Wrangler (tested in the last issue) and Nissan Xterra. With Toyota's almost legendary quality, and the tie-in to the FJ from the past, this new FJ is a great mix of Retro with the perfect amount of Modern. Price for our tester, decently equipped, was about \$29K.



What's Hot for 2008

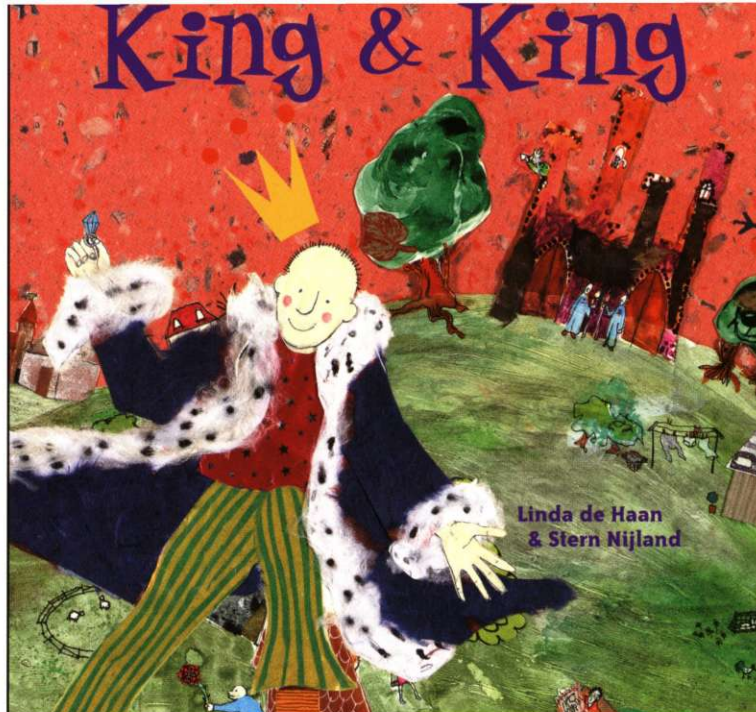
1. Nissan GT-R -- this car is finally coming to the US! This twin-turbo, all-wheel-drive screamer coming to our shores as a Nissan. There was talk that it would come out under the Infiniti nameplate.

2. Mini Clubman -- this is a small wagon version of the popular Mini Cooper. Very cool and very distinctive.

3. Pontiac G8 -- this car is based on the Holden Commodore sedan (a GM division which sells in Australia). Finally a rear-drive serious competitor. Pontiac hasn't sold a rear-drive car since 1986.

4. Saturn Astra -- it seems like Saturn is turning into a way for Opel to market its cars here and that's not a bad thing. This small stylish hatchback replaces the ho-hum Ion as Saturn's entry-level car.

5. The return of Alfa Romeo -- One of Italy's premiere automakers, we haven't had Alfa Romeo in the USA since 1995. These are some beautiful cars, and the bodywork would look great in a modern art museum.



Gaydar Magazine: What was your inspiration for writing the King & King series?

Stern & Linda: We met in artschool, after graduating we shared a studio. We decided to make a picturebook for children.

It had to be about love, a happy story. And it had to end with "and everyone lives happily ever after". We came up with the title King & King. So we thought: why not make a sweet love story about two princes. Nothing educational or idealistic, just a spontaneous idea of a 'happily ever after story' with a different ending to it. We had a lot of fun making the book, drawing together at the same illustrations at the same time. So after finishing part one, we decided we wanted to make a part two. King & King had to travel to another world. With a lot of adventure in it., a lot of animals, jungle stuff, things which are big fun to illustrate.....Luckily Tricycle Press was willing to publish part two. Only in the USA, King & King has a sequel: King & King & Family. In the end they adopt a little girl!

GM: There has been some controversy surrounding King & King at a local library. A husband and wife were demanding the title be removed from the library after they signed the book out and read it to their son. The library refused to remove King & King and a local group has actually been supplying other libraries with King & King since the controversy began. Are you aware of other incidences like this?

S&L: A couple of years ago (2004) it started in Wilmington U.S.A. We heard about it

trough the media and our publisher Tricycle Press. Since then there have been different incidents with King & King in the media.

Because of this we got extra attention in Holland for the book as well. So the angry parents actually helped to promote the book. We think that is very amusing. It's really strange to notice that, trough the reactions of other people, there must be a special message in our book. First we could hardly believe people would go so mad and get angry about our book.

GM: Tell us about the response to King & King from other countries.

S&L: Overall response has been positive! The book is now published in 7 countries. In Germany it was the book of the month in the Magazine for Children's Literature. There have been several requests for the stage rights of King & King. A lot of media and readers responded well to the book. Especially gay parents/ people with gay friends or Schoolteachers like the book! In England the book was used in a special project: 'No outsiders'. A tolerance awareness project. Next spring the book will be published in Iceland...we hope the Icelandic people will love the book.

GM: At what age do you feel King & King is appropriate for children?

S&L: At any age. King & King is just a happy and funny story about love. You are probably aiming at the fact that the book shows that King & King fall in love. For really small children this is not a big deal. In fact they don't even notice this might be special!!! They just think it is colourful and funny, and wonder what the crown kitty will do on the next page. For older children it might be a learning tool: this is simply is a part of life!

What better way to show and learn about same-sex couples than through a harmless children's book.

GM: Do you plan to continue the series and if so what is next for the King & King characters?

S&L: After finishing part one we had plans for a lot of K&K books. Like King & King going to Rio, and King & King in an under see adventure. But at the moment we are not working on any other K&K books. Strange, maybe we have to do another K&K adventure in 2008!! Just let us know where you want them to go.

GM: Of course a lot of children's books are adapted for films and/or TV programs. Have you ever been approached to adapt King & King for another medium?

S&L: Our publisher has been approached by theatre companies, for small stage shows. And also a few small children programs on Dutch television. We would love to see 'King & King the Movie' of course!

GM: What other projects are you working on?

S&L: We just planned to go to Bologna (Italy) next spring, where the big Children's book fair is being held. Both of us are working on several projects, children's books and other educational illustration assignments. Unfortunately we do not share a studio anymore, but we make sure we still work together on special projects. Just finished a picture book about a Raccoon who is in charge of the laundry for all the animals in the forest. We just keep on making funny and innocent(harmless) children books.

www.sternnijland.com

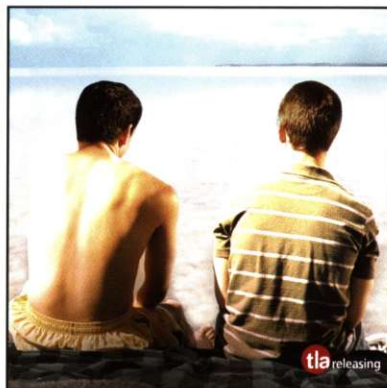
DVD Reviews

by Bob Ferrigno & Manny Morales

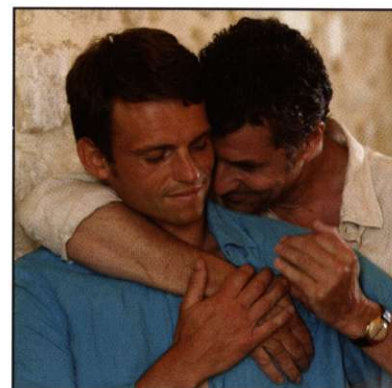
Images courtesy of TLA Video, Strand Releasing, Picture This!



Naked Boys Singing: English/Musical: The title pretty much says it all. If you like naked boys and musicals this one is for you. Comical lyrics and some OK dancing. Entertaining, but probably best left off Broadway.



Rock Haven: English: A devout Christian boy meets a gay neighbor, develops feelings and struggles against all that he's been taught. A very good coming-out story.



Times Have Been Better: Foreign/Subtitles: A coming out story that focused on the parents' journey to accepting their son's unorthodox lifestyle. Definitely worth watching!



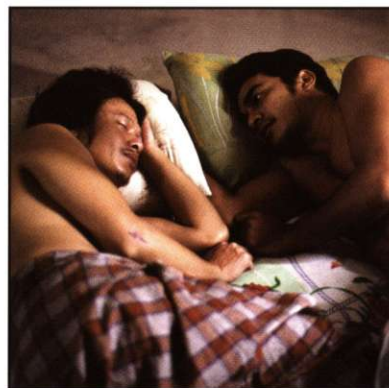
One to Another: Foreign/Subtitles: French teenagers search for a missing friend and brother and cope with their loss. Not very entertaining. The story didn't go anywhere.



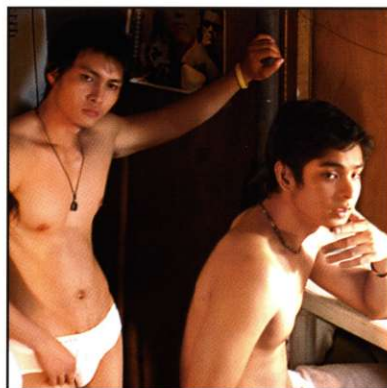
The Man of My Life: Foreign/Subtitles: A man vacationing with his family in the French countryside meets their openly gay neighbor and questions his own sexuality. Nice story, but sloooooow.



Eternal Summer: Foreign/Subtitles – College student is in love with his childhood friend but doesn't know how to tell him. A bit slow but worth watching



I Don't Want to Sleep Alone: Foreign/Subtitles: Watch this movie and you'll be asleep in approximately 20 minutes. Good for a good snooze and to catch up on your rest.



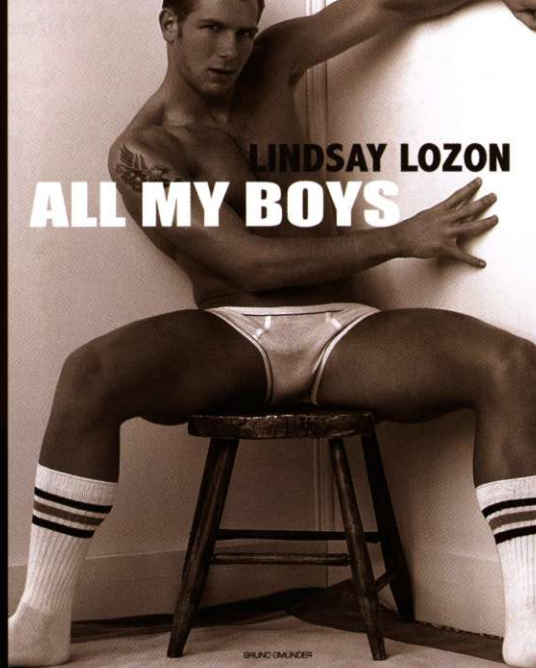
Masseur: Foreign/Subtitles: Story of a massage parlor in the Far-East where all services are offered. Not much of a story line and slow moving.



Boy's Life 6: English: Not what the title would suggest. A collection of 4 short stories. It gave us a feel of a Stephen King selection only gay and without the scary parts. Interesting and off beat.

Lindsay Lozon

Interview by Stephen Libby
Photos courtesy of Lindsay Lozon



Lindsay Lozon is a highly respected photographer whose work has been featured in countless publications. He has granted permission to reprint some of his photos from the new book, *All My Boys*. If you don't read the interview, you can't look at the pictures.

Gaydar Magazine: Okay, tell us everything. Who are you? Where are you from? What makes you tick? Favorite cookie?

Lindsay Lozon: Simply said...I'm a freelance photographer living in Toronto, Canada. It's been a passion of mine for almost 30 years. I have 3 books published "THE BOYS", "BOYS UNCOVERED" and now my third just released "ALL MY BOYS". I love what I do.....I can't get enough. It's my daily bread.... or since you ask...the icing on my sugar cookie.

GM: Where do you find these gorgeous models?

LL: I'm lucky...The models, for the most part, come to me from the modeling agencies here in the city.

GM: What do you look for in a potential model?

LL: Personality PLUS...the photography is about them....clean and simple.

GM:What inspires your photography?

LL: The model inspires the photography....every time all the time.

GM: What other photographers' work do you admire?

LL: Impossible to name one...there are many photographers out there doing some great work... its all so different. Take an afternoon spend time in a book store check out the magazine and photography sections...guaranteed your head will spin with ideas.

GM: How long does it take to compile the photos and produce a book like this?

LL: My first book going back to the start took 10 years....the second and third came a little easier...3 to 4 years.

GM: Most of your models are wearing underwear. What is it about underwear that makes for a great photo?

LL: Its not about the underwear...I'm shooting the models body shot...jeans or underwear.....keeps it sexy. Sometimes, once in a while...I might shoot a little extra!

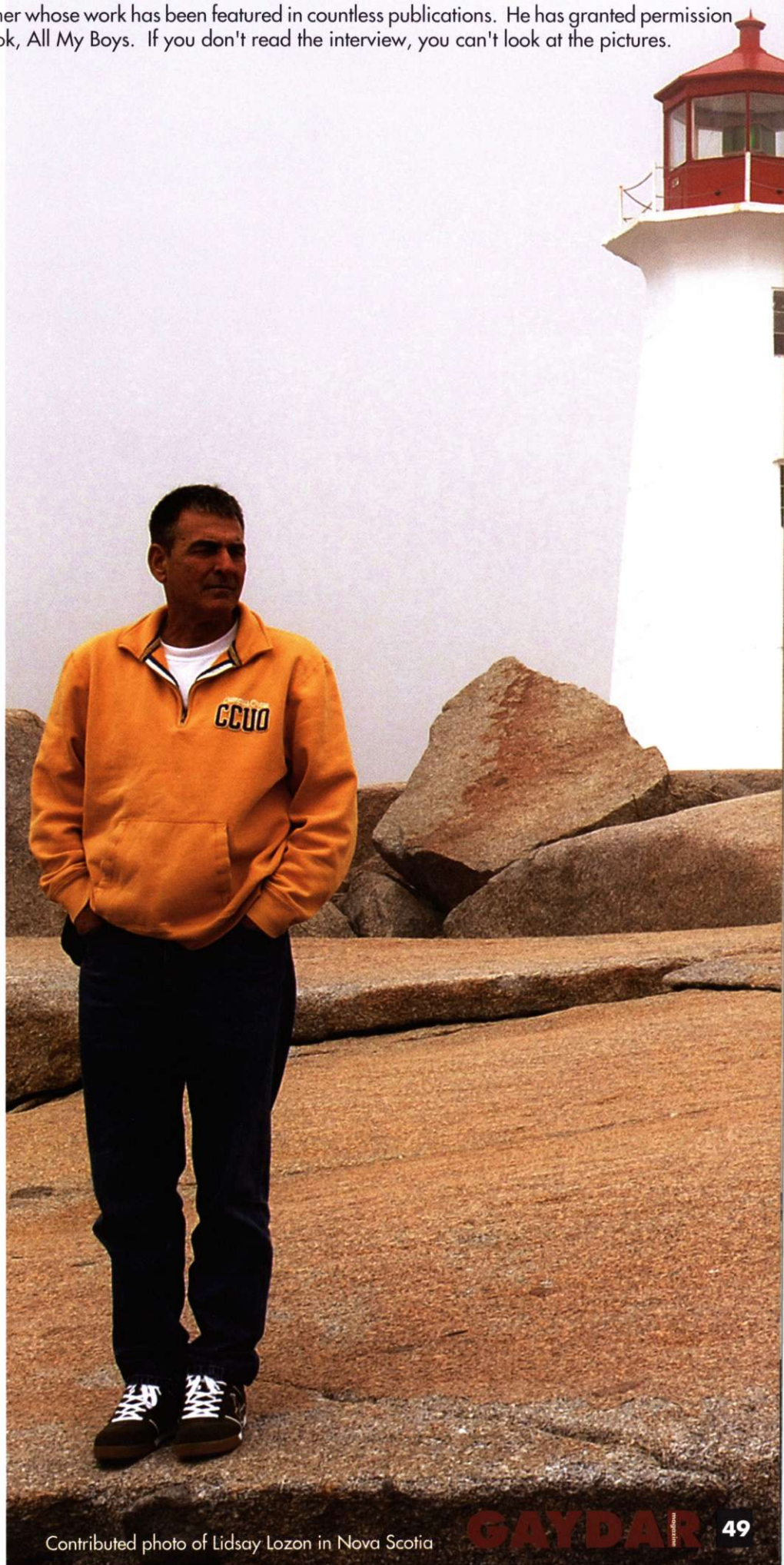
GM: Do you have any advice for aspiring photographers or models?

LL: Each to their own...my advice, don't overwhelm yourself with lighting and props...it often just gets in the way....concentrate your efforts on the subject at hand.

GM: Where can we find more of your work and how can someone contact you if they want to model for your lens?

LL: I'm always open to seeing and shooting new people...check out my website lindsaylozon.com contact me from there....send me a photo or two. I'd love to hear from you.

GM: Readers, please enjoy the next few pages courtesy of Lindsay.



Contributed photo of Lindsay Lozon in Nova Scotia









I'm sure you guys are sick and tired of reading my annual best & worst so I asked everyone's favorite tranny hooker to offer her list for 2007. We love you Coco!!!

WORST

Seeing the young lives of Britney, Lindsay, and Paris splashed not only across the tabloids, but across news stations like CNN. It was so sad, or as my mother Helen would say, "Who gives a shit?" I mean, c'mon, wouldn't you rather hear about me running into Karen Black at the Vitamin Store?

UGLY BETTY! I guess it's a good show, especially since they stole some of my material!

Walking along beaches picking up other people's garbage and having people look at me like I'm the crazy one.

Getting mistaken for a tranny hooker.

Politics in general just reminds me that drag queens really should be running the world. It would be a lot more peaceful, a lot more colorful, and a helluva lot more fun!

BEST

One of the things I am most grateful for in 2007 is that it means we are all one year closer to Evie Harris', my co-star in the film *Girls Will Be Girls*, death.

Senator Craig's arrest, although tragic for him, proved once again what gay people have been saying for years and that is, men that take a stand against men that suck cock... suck cock!

The Amazing Race! (I think my husband, Rafael, and I would make a great team...The Drag Queen and the Professor.)

Getting mistaken for a tranny hooker.

The best thing that happened to me in 2007 is that I was married to my longtime partner, Rafael, in his country, Spain. Actually, it was last year, but I just wanted to remind everyone that I was legally married in Spain... in a castle...on the Mediterranean! And what makes it all the more sweeter is that... you weren't!

Best
&
Worst
of 2007

BROADWAY CARES

been there done that



Top (L to R): Cast of Legally Blonde, Anthony Rapp auctions tickets to Rent, Lucie Arnaz, Gary kisses Zac.
Bottom (L to R): Grey Gardens' Christine Ebersole, Gary & Jon shopping for hair products, Tyne Daly, Frank Decaro, Silver Cruiser

Halloween @ NYC

been there done that

Photos by Bruce-Michael Gelbert



HALLOWEEN @ FIRE ISLAND

been there done that



Thanks to everyone who supported our holiday fundraiser at Lee Gribbens on Main. With your help we raised close to \$3000 for FACT (Fighting AIDS Continuously Together) & Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley!



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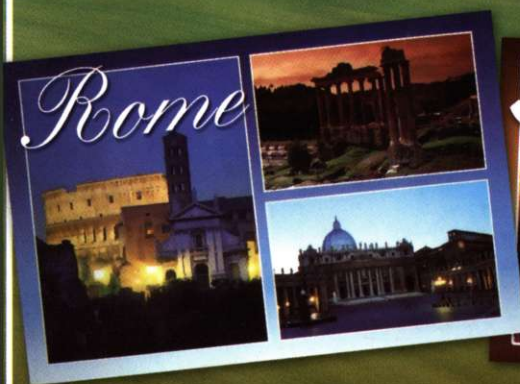
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